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The White Faced Black Spanish.

BY MR. HUNTER.

Several weeks ago some friends of FARM-POULTRY wrote us, asking that we give a good, up-to-date illustration of the White Faced Black Spanish in our series of illustrated histories of the different breeds, remarking that a great deal of them had not been seen in the papers in a long time, and that an illustration from life, by Sewell, would be greatly appreciated by the fanciers who breed them. We told our friends that we would include the Black Spanish in our series, and would take them next in order after those Mr. Sewell already had underway.

The cut, given herewith, is an excellent illustration of the White Faced Black Spanish, and the lovers of that variety will thank us for publishing it; in their history, however, we are less fortunate. It is no doubt true that the Black Spanish are less popular than formerly; that not only are they not growing in popular favor, but the contrary is true—they are suffering a decline. They are rarely met with in the yards of breeders, and make a very small class in the show room; their decline in popular favor being no doubt due to the fact that their utility points have been sacrificed to the fancy point—the pure white face.

Tegetmeier's "Poultry Book," published about thirty years ago, gives several pages to a description of the Black Spanish, with a colored plate illustrating them. In its introductory remarks it says:

"The Spanish fowl throughout the Mediterranean coasts is always found in a state more or less degenerate, in comparison with the beautiful birds that are now seen at our exhibitions. So little attention, indeed, has been given to preserve the breed pure in any part of what we may term its native districts, that the specimens recently imported from Spain and the adjacent countries have always been of a very indifferent description. On the other hand, great attention has been paid to this breed in Holland, and many of the best birds recently imported have been introduced from thence. There can be little doubt that the Dutch originally obtained the breed from Spain, during the Spanish occupation of the Low Countries, and that they have carefully bred them since in a state of purity, and increased the beauty of the breed by the process of very careful 'artificial selection.' In England they have long been favorites with poultry-keepers of all grades."

Felch's "Poultry Culture" (1885), says:—

"The Spanish was long known as one of the best layers; and, in fact, the old Minorcas were in every respect equal to the Leghorns—but the breeding of the white face upon this breed has resulted in the fact that much of their merit has been sacrificed. Their eggs are larger than those of any other breed, but in number they fall much behind the average. They are extremely delicate as chicks, but when once matured they seem reasonably hardy; and the contrast of a pure white face and ear-lobe with their metallic, green-black plumage makes them much admired. As poultry, here in America, we would not concede, perhaps, that they were up to the average. Their dark legs and white meat are not preferred by the masses."

Wright's "Practical Poultry Keeper" says:—

"Spanish, unlike almost all other varieties, there really appears some reason for believing that this breed of fowls did originate, or at all events came to us, from Spain. It has, however, been long known and valued by amateurs



WHITE FACED BLACK SPANISH.

Drawn for Farm-Poultry, by Sewell. (Copyright, 1896, Farm-Poultry.)

in this country, and perhaps no other is so generally popular. This is no doubt partly owing to their truly aristocratic and haughty appearance, but no less also to their unrivaled large white eggs, which exceed in weight those of any other breed—except the lately introduced La Fleche, and are always sought after for the breakfast table.

"Of all the varieties of this breed now known, the White Faced Black Spanish is by far the most important, and the only one for which a special class is reserved at most poultry exhibitions; all others having to be shown in the class 'for any other variety.' Of this truly beautiful breed the following description has been given us by Mr. H. Lane, of Bristol.

"The general carriage of Spanish fowls is of great importance. The cock, especially, should carry himself very stately and upright, the breast well projecting, and the tail standing well up, but not carried forward as in some birds. The sickle-feathers should be perfect and fully developed, and the whole plumage a dense, jet black, with glossy reflections in the light. The hen should be equally dense in color, but is much less glossy. Any white or speckled feathers, which now and then occur, are fatal faults.

"The legs should be blue or dark lead color; any approach to white is decidedly bad,

The legs in both sexes are long, but the fowl should be nevertheless plump and heavy. I consider a good cock for exhibition ought not to weigh under seven pounds; the hen a pound less; and I have had several excellent cocks which weighed eight pounds each. All Spanish fowls in really good condition are heavier than they appear to be.

"The comb must be very large in both sexes, and of a bright, vermillion color. That of the hen should fall completely over on one side, but the cock's comb must be perfectly upright, the slightest approach to falling over being fatal to him at a good show. The indentations also must be regular and even, and the whole comb, though very large, quite free from any appearance of coarseness. Any sign of a twist in front is a great fault.

"The most important point, however, is the white face. This should extend as high as possible over the eye, and be as wide and deep as possible. At the top, it should be nearly arched in shape, approaching the bottom of the comb as nearly as possible, and reaching sideways to the ear-lobes and wattles, meeting also under the throat. In texture the face ought to be as fine and smooth as possible. The ears are large and pendulous, and should be as white as the face. Any fowl with red specks in the face has not the slightest chance.

"With regard to Spanish fowls as layers,

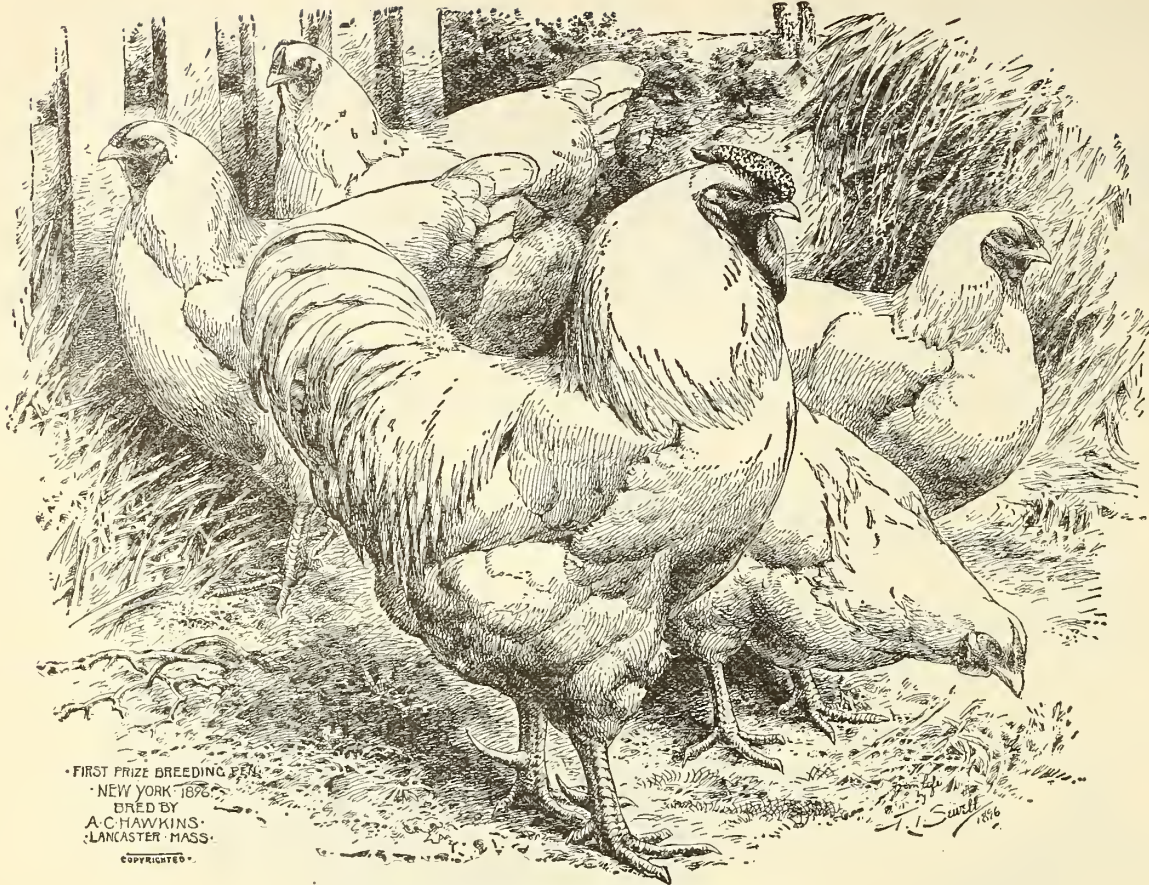
the pullets will generally lay when six months old, and I seldom get less than five or six eggs a week from each. My house is warned, which has, of course, some influence on a breed so delicate; but with this artificial aid, I find my pullets lay throughout the winter, as above.

"The great thing with the chickens is to keep them out of the damp. They scarcely ever get roup; but if not kept dry die away rapidly, no one knows how. They ought not, therefore, as a rule, to be hatched very early in the year; and one cock ought not to be allowed more than three hens, as the eggs are less fertile than those of most other breeds."

"Spanish are judged most of all by the quantity and quality of the 'face.' If this be rough and 'warty' so as to hinder the sight of the bird, or have any decided red mark, especially above the eye, or be much disfigured in the same region by feathers, the bird has little chance. Such feathers are often pulled out, but if thus 'trimmed' a pen ought always to be disqualified, though it is almost universally done by exhibitors.

"Like all other black fowls, colored or even white feathers will occasionally happen. Such birds are hopeless to exhibit, and decidedly bad to breed from.

"That the comb of the cock should be absolutely erect, is most important; and many breeders to secure this, place light wire frames



FIRST PRIZE BREEDING PEN
NEW YORK 1896
BRED BY
A. C. HAWKINS
LANCASTER, MASS.
COPYRIGHTED

MR. HAWKINS' WHITE WYANDOTTES.

First Prize Breeding Pen, New York, 1896. Sketched from Life, by Sewell.

or 'cages' over them, as soon as sufficiently developed to hold the wire in place; the combs are thus grown straight, like cucumbers! But there will rarely be need for this, if the breeding stock be of good constitution. The hens selected for breeding should therefore be carefully chosen with good *thick* combs, which spring up with some arch before they fall over the side of the head. Hens with combs that fall dead-over will rarely breed strong-combed cockerels. The comb of both sexes should, however, get thin at the edge, or it will appear heavy and clumsy.

"Mr. Lane has alluded to the delicacy of the chickens. During feathering, which is in this breed a very slow process, they require special care and most generous diet, or few will be reared. When full grown, however, they are a tolerably hardy fowl altogether, but always suffer much in moulting and during very cold or damp weather.

"In no breed is purity of race of so much importance as in this; and in introducing a fresh cock it is especially needful to see that both his appearance and pedigree are quite satisfactory. One of the most eminent breeders in England informed us a few months since that all his chickens of the season had been ruined by the introduction of a fresh cock, whose face when purchased appeared perfectly white, but who had imported more or less red into every chicken hatched from him. There can be no doubt, however, that too close interbreeding has greatly injured the Spanish fowl, and that both size, constitution and prolificacy have been sacrificed to the white face alone."

Mr. Wright's book, from which the above extracts are quoted, bears no date; it being the English custom to publish their books undated. We think, however, it was written some twenty-five years ago; and if it was true then that too close interbreeding had greatly injured our subject, how much more true is it today, especially in the utility points, in which ninety-nine out of every one hundred readers of this paper are interested.

One point, in passing, we would like to touch upon. In the light of experience we would think it probable that the cock who imported more or less red into every chicken hatched from him might have been all right as to perfectly white face and pedigree. The result there chronicled would be likely to be brought about by the crossing of two distinct strains of blood, even though both strains of blood were

of the most undoubted purity. That crossing of two distinct strains of blood gives opportunity for the always waiting tendency to "reversion," and 'develops in white fowls a black feather or in black fowls a white one, etc.; and would be, in our judgment, a sufficient explanation of the "more or less red imported into every chicken" begotten by that fresh cock.

Saunders' "Domestic Poultry" (1866), says: "Lovers of these fowls have called them, says Bailey, 'the aristocracy of poultry.' Fine specimens realize high prices in England. I have known one hundred dollars ineffectually offered for a cock and two hens. Our best Spanish fowl were formerly got from Holland, but the great demand for them, both here and in England, has nearly exhausted the market there."

Bennett's "Poultry Book," (1850) says:—"This is a fowl well deserving the attention of the breeder. They have long been naturalized in England, and are consequently well 'climatized,' and present no peculiarities of constitution that would suggest difficulties in either hatching or rearing. As table birds, they hold a place in the very first rank, their flesh being particularly white, tender and juicy, and the *skin* possessing that beautifully white hue so essential a requisite for birds designed for the consumption of the gourmand. The hens are likewise layers of the first order; and of all naturalized or indigenous varieties of fowls with the exception of the Columbian, these lay the largest and the best-flavored eggs."

Coming down to later times, "Profits in Poultry," (1886), says:—

"The Black Spanish are great layers; none surpass them in beauty, nor excel them in size and quantity of eggs. Our northern winters are too severe for them; yet they seem to do well, if we judge by the grand display of our poultry exhibitions. They require great care during chickenhood; cold rains, damp houses and runs, and close confinement are positive seeds of mortality. They love to roam over the ample grounds of the breeder's home-stead, where they can bask in sunshine and display their unique and ornamental facial markings."

In "The Poultry Yard," by Miss E. Watts, London, (1892), we find:—

"How are the mighty fallen!" may be said with regard to the Black Spanish fowl. At one time it stood almost the peer amongst all varieties of domestic poultry. Mr. Lythall, late secretary of the Birmingham agricultural

society, has told how somewhere about thirty years ago there were upwards of three hundred specimens of this variety shown at one exhibition of that society. Now they seldom reach a dozen in ordinary shows.

"That they were exceptionally good as layers is well known, and this is a quality they still retain. Weight for weight, we should not think that any other breed can touch the Black Spanish, as they are both prolific and produce a very large egg. But their extreme delicacy and the ragged appearance they have when more than a few months old, put them out of court entirely for all practical purposes.

"The blame for this state of things must be laid at the door of the excessive development of white on the face. This kid-like substance hangs down on the best specimens for several inches, and is often very beautiful in its texture, smooth as a lady's glove. To secure it in perfection everything else has been sacrificed, and show specimens are kept in an artificial, hot-house state which has naturally resulted in enfeeblement of the system. That the present day Spanish, as seen in this country, are remarkable examples of the breeders' art, is unquestioned; but they are of no real value for practical purposes. This is to be regretted, as their marvelous laying powers might have proved of the highest service."

Major Morant's "Poultry for Profit," (1893) says:—

"Black Spanish have been described as a most excellent sort to keep as layers; but it is one of the worst as a table fowl. It has a narrow, pointed breast, and long, thin legs, and does not fatten at all readily; the meat is too dry and stringy."

We quoted above from Tegetmeier's "Poultry Book," published some thirty years ago. In 1892 Mr. Tegetmeier published "Table and Market Poultry vs. Fancy Fowls," in which he says:—

"The Spanish fowl is a remarkable example of the effect of competitive shows on what was formerly a most useful breed of poultry. For many years the fanciers have bred this variety for perfection of face, which, in the exhibition birds, must be purely white, without the smallest speck of redness visible on its surface. The white ear-lobe has also been enormously developed so as to become three inches or four inches in length, and capable of being extended laterally almost to the same width. The comb is of preternatural size,

deeply indented with large serrations, perfectly upright on the head in the cocks; whilst in the hens it is correspondingly enlarged, but folds over one side of the face, hiding the eye. In order to obtain these results the birds are most artificially treated. They are not allowed to go into the sunshine, lest it spoil the whiteness of the face. They are kept in a high temperature in order to develop the facial appendages to the greatest possible degree, and to prevent the combs being frostbitten. The result has been, as far as regards the useful properties of the bird, that it has become stilted, small in size, weakly in constitution, and almost useless as a layer. The most prolific Black Spanish that were formerly to be found in many farm and stable yards, are things of the past. The show birds are so useless that no one but fanciers will keep them, and as profitable poultry the breed has passed out of existence; in fact, so few are now kept that in many of the poultry shows no classes are inserted in the schedules. The extraordinary development of this breed in fancy characteristics, combined with its extinction as a useful fowl, is the natural outcome of the present system of competitive shows for fancy poultry."

We ought to add, in closing, that the utility points for which the Black Spanish were formerly so greatly esteemed, may be found perfectly retained in the sister-variety, the Black Minorcas.

Marketing Eggs.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

I read with great interest your valuable paper, and am more and more impressed with the poultry business as a means of making money, both as a specialty or as an adjunct to a farm or garden. The various articles which you have published relative to structure of houses, feeding, cleanliness, etc., seem to cover the entire field. But I see very little about getting the eggs to market, wherein lies the consummation of the results. I presume the matter seems so self-evident that it has not been deemed worthy of mention. If a package could be made air tight, it would be a great desideratum, as then eggs could be marketed safely in both extremes of heat and cold, and while the price is highest.

A loss of a very few eggs will pay the difference between a first-class package and a poor one.

A great many farmers think that one egg is as good as another, if both are fresh, and wonder why, when their returns come in from a lot packed in loose jointed cases, (some small, some large, and most of them dirty), that the amount is so much below the market quotations for fresh eggs. Unless their attention is specifically called to the matter, they will continue in their shiftless ways, and condemn the poultry business as non-paying.

The quotations in this market especially are often misleading, and shippers from distant points are tempted to rush in car load after car load when they see from St. Louis, Cincinnati and Chicago, the price, "twelve cents to fifteen cents, *dull*," at the same time Boston nearby quote 30 cents to 38 cents; Cape 28 cents to 35 cents, etc. When their returns arrive they receive less perhaps than if they had shipped to some nearby city.

The principal reason for the difference lies in the fact that people here are learning how to select and clean their eggs, pack them in neat cases, and never, under any consideration, allow an egg of doubtful age to get into a package, and keeping the small ones for home consumption. Eggs marketed according to the above suggestions ought and do average twenty-five cents per dozen the entire year, and at that price a poultry farm will pay better than almost any legitimate business for the amount of capital required.

Boston, Mass. A. CONSTANT READER.

Give the hens all possible freedom, and there will be less trouble with soft shelled eggs, for they will get the exercise, and pick up the lime they need. If they have stopped laying, a change of food will soon start them in business again; and always does a variety of food bring the best results.—*Indiana Farmer*,

Improve the Quality.—I.

By MR. HUNTER.

The greatest need of the poultry business today is an improved quality of product, both of eggs and dressed poultry. Few men have a fair conception of the influence of quality upon consumption, and yet it is highly probable that the glutting of our markets with a low grade of goods checks the consumption of poultry products to a remarkable degree, and is a most serious handicap to the business. The point was well illustrated in the condensed report of an address by Mr. J. H. Hale, of Connecticut, at the meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society, in *Garden and Forest*, for February 12th. We quote a portion of Mr. Hale's remarks:

"For complete success the fruit grower must go to the wholesale market, to the retail market, and, if possible, to the consumer, to learn just exactly what is wanted. In this way the grower can, to a certain extent, educate the market, which is also a good thing; but he must understand primarily what the people want. The more time a grower spends in the market the better the form in which his goods will be placed. A fine appearance opens the consumer's pocketbook and then quality keeps it open."

There is the idea perfectly stated, "a fine appearance opens the consumer's pocketbook, and then quality keeps it open." The converse of that is equally true. A poor-looking, unattractive article causes the possible buyer to pass on to something else; a roast of beef, a leg of lamb, a loin of veal, maybe; leaving the lean, lanky, blue-skinned fowls and chicks hanging in solitary state. We saw a good example of this while studying the market-stalls in Centre Market, during the Washington show. Everybody (almost) in Washington goes marketing, buys the family supplies at the stalls of the great city market, and Saturday is the great market-day. We spent some hours of Saturday sauntering about the market, observing the buyers and what they bought, and chatting here and there with a marketman when we could catch one unengaged for a moment. Again and again we would watch a richly dressed lady come in, with her footman carrying the basket to receive the purchases, and we would follow on at a little distance to see what the selection was. In almost every instance there seemed to be no fixed purpose to buy beef, or lamb, or poultry. The marketer would go about from stall to stall, looking at this and that, and finally selecting the roast that seemed to attract the eye. Four times out of five (by actual count) it was beef or lamb, although the marketers had paused at two or three different poultryer's stalls to look at and price the goods; the fifth bought a turkey. One lady looked at broiler chicks, asked the price, shook her head slightly, and passed on. After noting her purchase of steak at another stall we turned back to the poultryer's stall and asked him why the lady didn't buy of him. "These aren't good enough," he replied. "All the best is sold." We had talked a few minutes with this same man early in the morning, (we paid a before-breakfast visit to Centre Market on two of the days we were there) when he was opening a barrel of broiler-chicks. The bulk of them were blue, skinny things, with hardly any flesh on the skeleton, and what flesh there was wasn't fattened a particle; that is, they were simply caught, killed, plucked and shipped to market. About one pair in five had bright yellow skin and legs, and looked succulent and toothsome. We picked up the most attractive pair, plump-breasted and yellow-skinned, and asked the man what he got for such a pair of birds as that. "Fifteen cents a pound," he replied. "And what do you get for those blue ones?" we asked. "The same price," he replied. "But don't these plump-breasted birds sell the best?" we asked. "Oh! yes," replied he, "those handsome, yellow ones will be picked out by the first comers, and the others will drag along." "Why, then, don't you get a better price for the better birds, say eighteen or twenty cents a pound, and let the people who want the best pay more for it?" we asked. "Well, habit," he replied. "We sell these chickens at fifteen cents a pound, just as they run, and the custom being fixed, it isn't easy to change." We assured him that we felt certain that the best chickens ought to bring the best price, just as beef does, or butter, or almost everything else. We told him his neighbors sold prime sirloin roasts

at twenty-five cents a pound, rib roasts at twenty or eighteen cents, according to the cut, while chuck-ribs could be bought for twelve cents, and so on. Butter could be bought at eighteen to twenty cents if anyone wanted that kind, better at twenty-five cents, while really fine butter was scarce at thirty cents a pound; unquestionably chickens and fowls ought to be "graded," and the best one bring a higher price than the poorer ones. If that had been done, the "fancy" chickens selling for twenty cents, medium at fifteen, and poorer at twelve, it would have given all classes an opportunity to buy according to their pocketbook, and not compelled the rich lady who wanted chickens to pass on to something else because the best chickens were all gone, and only blue-skinned, lank, "skinny" things left.

But we have gone off from our text, although the story illustrates, in a way, how quality influences consumption. If a poultryer there in Centre Market had had a display of really choice, well-fattened, plump-breasted, yellow-skinned chickens and fowls he would have sold again and again instead of the expected customer going on to something else. The display of poor quality goods directly retarded (prevented) sales, which is exactly in line with Mr. Hale's statement that "a fine appearance opens the consumer's pocketbook, and then quality keeps it open." This point needs to be carefully considered by poultry raisers, because the future prosperity and well being of the business is closely allied to it. Many people would buy and eat poultry and eggs if they could get a first-class article; failing to find it they go on to something else. The following clipping from the *Homestead*, illustrates the same idea:

One of the most serious drawbacks to the cheese industry is the vast amount of cheese made which has been robbed of a part of its cream. The consumer buys a small piece, but its poor quality is against it, it is not eaten, goes to waste, and the housewife of economical tendencies does not buy again for months. If only good cheese, from whole milk, were made, the consumption would steadily increase. But the market has been so badly demoralized by the makers of poor cheese that it will take years to recover its tone, even when poor cheeses are no longer sold.

We firmly believe that an improvement in quality of dressed poultry and eggs would double the consumption, yes, quadruple it; and it is our purpose to give considerable space in future numbers to a careful consideration of this matter. "A poor article is slow-selling, is a 'drug' on the market, while a fine appearance opens the consumer's pocketbook, and then quality keeps it open."

Milk for Chickens.

One of the best plans of breeding young poultry, at least for the first week or ten days, is to soak the bread, corn meal or whatever material in sweet milk. If it can be fed warm in this way, it should not be sloppy, but sufficiently damp to be soft and easily eaten and digested. Milk is one of the best foods that can be supplied to young poultry, and they can be given all that they will eat or drink of it. There is no danger of their taking too much. Even raw corn meal will make much less objectionable rations if it is to be fed with milk instead of water.—*Inter-State Poultryman*.

The Poultryman's Dog.

The article in the November 15th issue, on "The Poultryman's Dog," has prompted me to write this note. I had never before read anything regarding the Collie for poultry work, but can heartily endorse every word written by Mr. Boyer and Mr. Felch, as I am the owner of one. From a tiny puppy he has been my constant companion when caring for my dummies and chicks; and early in life manifested the deepest interest in all phases of the work. Without any training he began to assist in various ways, viz., keeping hens away when feeding chickens, separating any fighting ones, hunting hens' nests, etc. He is devoted itself over any little chick that perchance is sick or ailing. In short, he has almost human intelligence. I know he understands much of common conversation, and the love he lavishes upon me is unbounded. When I go from home he will neither eat nor drink until my return. It must be a stony heart that could fail to respond to such sincere affection. Mrs. J. M. S. Athol, Mass.

Prof. Corbett Again.

By MR. HUNTER.

We published under the title, "How to Make \$500 a Year with Twelve Hens," in October, 1894, an 'exposure' of a pretended method of making fabulous profits from a flock of hens, advertised by Prof. A. Corbett, of New York. We will say at the outset that the "Prof.'s" specious advertisement was refused by FARM-POULTRY, and we have been at a loss to understand how reputable agricultural papers could publish it, but several continue to do so. We clip the following from the *Rural New Yorker* of Feb. 15th.

We notice in many of the agricultural papers, the advertisement of a wonderful book, by Prof. A. Corbett, offering to tell how to make

\$500 Profit from 12 Hens.

This is so far ahead of five-cent potatoes that we determined to examine the book before advertising it. The copy sent us is a cheap little volume of one hundred and thirty-three pages, of which nearly fifty are devoted to telling how valuable the other eighty are. It is a very commonplace treatise on incubation as it was practiced twenty-five years ago, evidently reprinted from old plates, on quite inferior paper. It is of no earthly use to a poultryman of to-day, and it is little short of a humbug to offer this book, with its startling title, for \$1.

Just as our laugh over the *Rural New Yorker's* indignation had subsided we received a note from Dr. Woods, of Salem, enclosing the "Prof.'s" ad. clipped from a weekly agricultural paper, and asking, "What do you make of the enclosed? If it is a 'fake' intended to 'gull' the ignorant, it ought to be shown up."

We wrote the Dr. in reply that the thing had been "shown up" in FARM-POULTRY, and sent him a copy of the "Prof.'s" wonderful book which we happened to have in our desk. In a few days came the following:—

"My dear Mr. Hunter:—Many thanks for your prompt reply and the copy of the 'Prof.'s' book. I have read it, and find that the matter is largely copied from an old French book, the 'Education of the Chick,' by one of Reaumur's followers. The 'Prof.'s' book is not even an accurate copy, and is evidently cleverly adapted with a show of originality of research. His historical attempts are rather erratic, and the discovery he claims was made and perfected by Reaumur before the 'Prof.' was born. I should like to have seen his wonderful 'institute,' located somewhere in the vast unknown, and I wonder that the 'Prof.,' 'now in his old age,' as he describes himself, should be obliged to resort to publishing and selling a ten cent book for a dollar instead of making a fortune with twelve hens and their increase. I admire his extreme modesty and lack of egotism, when on p. 34 he speaks of not being willing to flood the country with poultry and eggs and put a stop to the demand. It was kind of him to refrain, when he might have lined his pockets with dollars, and could now retire with comfort in his old age."

Dr. Woods remarks that the publicity given the thing by noticing it in FARM-POULTRY might be unwise; but we cannot refrain from cautioning F-P. readers against squandering honest dollars in buying this specious book. Why the "Prof." should resort to coaxing dimes out of over-credulous buyers of his pamphlet when he could coin hundreds of dollars by putting his teachings into practice, is certainly puzzling. It does not answer the question that the "Prof." says he is "unwilling to flood the country with poultry and eggs." Cannot he see that the putting of his book in the hands of a dozen or hundred eager poultry novices would be still more fatal to the "demand," because it would let loose a dozen or hundred "floods" of poultry and eggs! We greatly fear that the "Prof." hasn't thought out the disastrous consequences of the wide distribution of his book. If he, only, was practicing what he teaches, there would be but the one small stream added to the present supply; by selling his book broadcast, if his teachings were practical we should have "floods upon floods," the world would be buried in poultry and eggs!

Hens like variety; unless starved to it, they will reject all kinds of food not suitable, and they are usually the better judges of what they want and need. Of the grains, wheat is best for eggs. Long legged fowls are hard to fatten, but those with short legs soon become plump.—*Indiana Farmer*.

Sharp

Shooting pains in the head and face are symptoms of neuralgia, "the prayer of the nerves for pure blood." Therefore to cure neuralgia purify the blood and build up by taking

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. \$1; six for \$5. Hood's Pills assist digestion. 25 cents.

EGGS for HATCHING.

Barred Plymouth Rocks,

(Brown Egg Strain; "the business fowl of the 19th century.")

White Wyandottes,

(Brown Egg, Prolific Laying Stock.)

Light Brahmas,

(Early Laying Strain; have been got to laying at 5 mos. and 8 days old.)

Price, \$3 per sitting; two sittings, \$5.

For eggs from the same pens I set eggs from for my own chickens,

Incubator Eggs, \$6 per 100.

A. F. HUNTER,

South Natick, Mass.

Special Wh. Wyandottes.

There having been much complaint about average White Wyandottes being undersized, I have made up two special pens of birds that are of good Wyandotte form, have extra good combs and lobes, and are of extra large size.

Pen 1 is composed of eleven one year old hens, which weigh 7 to 7½ pounds apiece, headed by an unrelated cockerel weighing 8½ pounds; the average of the birds being more than ½ pound above standard weight.

Pen 2 is composed of 12 pullets which weigh 6½ to 7½ pounds each, headed by an unrelated year old cock that weighs 9½ pounds, the birds averaging more than a pound above standard weight. I will sell a few eggs from these two pens at \$5 per sitting—but not more than one-half of all their eggs will go off from my farm.

A. F. HUNTER,

South Natick, Mass.

VALUABLE POULTRY BOOK

FREE for two stamps. Address, MICHAEL K. BOYER, Natick, Mass.

EGGS FOR HATCHING

M. BRONZE TURKEYS.
Immense in size, fine in markings.

BUFF LEGHORNS.
True to color; headed by prize cockerels.

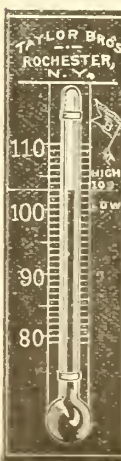
WHITE WYANDOTTES.
The broiler favorite.

B. PLYMOUTH ROCKS.
The business fowl.

WHITE WONDERS.
Wonderful layers.

Black Spanish, Pekin Ducks.
I have carefully mated up my pens for '96, and can assure my patrons of excellent results in both egg yield and show-room points. Turkey eggs, \$2 per sitting; all others, \$1.50 do. Tenth annual catalogue free.

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Taylor Brothers Company,
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ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Hens' Eggs or Pullets' Eggs.

BY MR. HUNTER.

That many people prefer hens' eggs to pullets' eggs to hatch chickens from, goes without saying; but we have had the fact brought prominently to our notice several times of late, and would like to get at the reasons for believing that hens' eggs will produce better (larger?) chicks.

Some weeks ago we received a letter from a former customer asking if we could furnish him with two hundred White Wyandotte eggs five days from date, and guarantee that every one was laid by a hen, i. e., by a bird over a year old. We replied that we could not; that we had ten breeding pens of White Wyandottes, four of which were pullets, and six of them year-old hens; but we did not separate the eggs, and would not do it unless paid a substantially better price for the hens' eggs. In a couple of days came a letter from him explaining that he had sent an order to — (a FARM-POULTRY advertiser) for two hundred White Wyandotte eggs from hens, that the order had been accepted in good faith, but the time for shipment had gone past, and no eggs — and he could get no reply from the man he had sent the order to. We wrote back that the mistake lay in the breeder accepting the order limited to hens' eggs; that no one could fill such an order unless given ample time, because the hens were such sluggish layers; but that the breeder was an honorable man, who would fulfil every possible contract, and would make ample amends (even "to his own hurt") where unable to fill an order. We wrote the F.-P. advertiser, enclosing the customer's letter, and received reply that when the order was accepted he fully expected to be able to fill it, but the hens had dropped off in their laying, and while he was four or five days behind in filling the order, he didn't think that delay was so serious if he honestly adhered to the terms of the order, and shipped eggs actually laid by hens.

Soon after this episode closed we received a letter from a young man who wanted to know for what price we would sell him a hundred White Wyandotte eggs, every egg to be laid by three or more years old; and what price we would quote him on three or five White Wyandotte hens, all to be at least three years old. We wrote him that we hadn't a hen on our place three years old, and that furthermore, we wouldn't accept three-year old hens as a gift, and keep them, unless they were extremely fine birds, the cream of a large flock. We then went on and asked him if he was willing to pay twice as much for hens' eggs as for pullets' eggs, assuring him that they cost twice as much to produce, and as his earnest inquiry indicated that he considered them more valuable we would naturally suppose him willing to pay more for them. To this, of course, we got no reply; we didn't expect any!

There isn't a week passes that we do not receive inquiries of this sort, and a reply offering to furnish hens' eggs at double the price of the average eggs invariably quiets them. Although believing (as they manifestly do) that the hens' eggs will be worth more to them, they are discreetly silent when told that they can get hens' eggs if willing to pay more for them. If worth more they certainly ought to be willing to pay more. Are they worth more? As a rule eggs laid by mature fowls (hens) are larger, (sometimes considerably larger), than those laid by pullets; but, on our farm we have found that those large eggs very commonly fail to hatch. That is, when eggs in the incubator or under hens fail to bring forth chicks it is, nine times out of ten, the extra large ones. The same idea is seen in the statement made to us by Mr. Weber. (See "There's Money in Ducks," page 89, March 1st F.-P.) "In discussing the details of the business the size of eggs came up for consideration, and Mr. Weber told us he considered the medium sized eggs gave them the best results. The large eggs and small eggs showed a higher average fertility, and a greater number failed to hatch. He said larger eggs could be easily induced by increasing the amount of corn meal in the ration; but as they had found them less satisfactory they aimed to get normal (sized) eggs."

This, of course, did not touch upon the age of the fowls laying the eggs, but it throws considerable light upon our subject. As a rule,

old fowls lay larger eggs than pullets; they also lay fewer of them. Are those fewer worth proportionately more? Are they worth enough more so that customers will pay more for them? We haven't found it so. As we said before, we have six pens of year-old hens and four pens of well matured pullets, White Wyandottes. Obviously we could fill orders for hens' eggs if so disposed, and if customers were willing to pay for them. The four pens of pullets lay fully as many eggs as the six pens of hens—in fact, rather more. Furthermore, there is a larger proportion of "cull" eggs among those laid by the hens; eggs with "crinkly" shells, or with shells cracked and then patched, or with a thin spot on one side or end. Anyone who has handled eggs for hatching knows that fully twenty per cent of those laid are "culled" out for defects of one kind or another; we have found that more than half of those "cull" eggs were from the pens of hens, although they laid somewhat less than half the eggs brought in.

We can, then, state our belief somewhat as follows:

Hens lay considerably fewer eggs than pullets.

Those they do lay contain a larger proportion that are defective.

Therefore, two pens of hens will lay no more good "hatchable" eggs than one pen of pullets; hence the hens' eggs that are good cost twice as much as the pullets' eggs that are good. Are they worth twice as much? We haven't, in our experience, found anyone willing to pay twice as much for them, or pay any premium for them—and, in view of the fact that they cost more, this seems unjust.

Are they actually worth more to hatch chickens from? Let us have opinions expressed upon this point. We have our individual opinion, and will express it duly; but we would like this article to be the opening of a discussion upon this subject—and it is probable we can all learn something.

Give us your experiences and theories, upon hens' and pullets' eggs for hatching.

Experiences of an Invalid Poultry-Woman.—II.

There was no appeal. The dictum of the family physician had gone forth; the invalid must, if she would be well, devote herself for one or more seasons to a "poultry ranch." This was no choice of occupation; there was no question as to whether the work would pay in a money point of view. It was simply in this case, a question of health, and there was no nonsense, no sentimentalism about it. It was the order of a man of sense, one who knew his business, and knew it well.

The available assets of the proposed new concern consisted of three superannuated hens, none less than three years old; but there were no liabilities. Fortunately, too, there was a little capital, so that there could be some choice as to the methods of procedure. Questions at once arose: Should more hens be bought? Should eggs be purchased, besides an incubator for hatching them, and a brooder for winter? Or should the more unusual plan of buying baby chicks be followed, the additional expense being limited to a brooder and run limits for them? The last was finally decided upon, as requiring less capital, and being better suited to the very small amount of strength which composed the personal "working capital" of the mistress of the ranch.

The stock of hens was augmented by the receipt of the gift of a trio of thoroughbreds, the express charges on which, \$1.25, made the first item of the debit side. A 100-chick outdoor brooder was bought, and it was thought best to buy also a few hens, with the intention of having them hatch chicks enough to fill the brooder a second time in the late spring.

Inquiries made of various breeders brought forth circulars announcing the fact that one-day chicks could be bought at prices varying from eight cents apiece if seventy-five were taken, to twenty-five cents each in small lots and of special breeds. No woman was found advertising in this branch of the work, and the chicks were of necessity bought from a man. I, the whilom invalid, may say that I am not enough of a new woman to ignore mankind entirely, but I believe it to be the duty of women to patronize women in trade, when they can.

It was just at this point of buying the young stock, that the foundation of failure in a single respect, was laid. The plan was a good one, and would have worked well if the man had fulfilled his agreement. Plymouth Rocks were selected, because the season was already upon us, and they would mature early into good broilers. The dealer professed to have chicks making ready for shipment in two weeks. Three days from receipt of his letter the order was sent, and the chicks were expected in about ten days thereafter, as per his statement of stock to be ready at that time. What was the result? This strict man of business, who insisted on cash with the order or no goods sent, dallied exactly five weeks before he sent the chicks, my money meanwhile being in his pocket.

Nor was this all: when those Plymouth Rocks came they were Leghorns! There was no word of explanation or exculpation, except that he had been "so pushed with orders" that he couldn't fill the one I was so deeply interested in; and he still had sufficient cheek to put in a bid for future orders. He did, however, in the generosity of his heart add "some extras to pay for trouble caused." These extras were two in number, having a value of twenty cents, and not the kind that had been ordered, yet they were supposed to pay for a loss that amounted to several dollars—for the nearly four weeks of lost time and the smaller size of the Leghorns rendered the cockerels unsalable for more than twelve and one-half cents per pound when they were at length ready for market.

If I had known as much or studied the figures as much last May as I have done since, I should either have ended the lives of the cockerels as soon as they were distinguishable, or else should have used them on the home table as soon as practicable after they were four weeks old.

There are several reasons for this way of thinking. A cogent one is that at the price we must pay for supplies, the cockerels had cost more than they would sell for, when four months old. The market was all the time ahead of them, calling for larger birds (had they been earlier this would not have been the case); they were an inveterate nuisance among the pullets from the time they were four weeks old; there was no available place to yard them by themselves; and the room they took was sadly needed by the pullets long before they were grown.

MYRA V. NORYS.

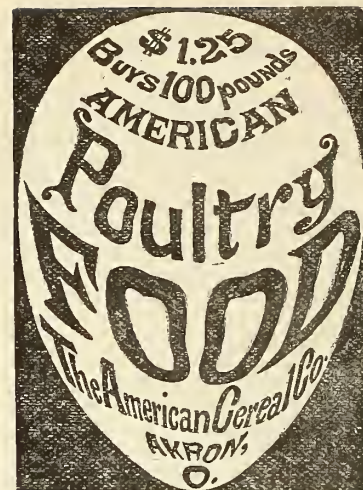
Cranford, N. J.

Hard Times.

The period of industrial and commercial stress from which our country is just emerging will be long remembered in the financial history of the country as fraught with failures, suffering, and general stagnation in all branches of trade. Every avenue of business and industry seemed to be closed; "hard times" became a national phrase, and the country could not at once shake it off, any more than the Old Man of the Mountain, in the story of "Sinbad the Sailor," could shake off his incubus.

In the general avalanche which swept down industries, the poultry trade suffered less than any other business. Although millions are invested in it, yet the capital is so nicely and evenly distributed among the thousands engaged in the avocation, that depression was little felt. The produce of other industries was a drug in the market; prices were below "hard-pan;" manufacturing establishments either suspended business or were run on half-time and on half-pay; every commodity for household use was rated low, and a decline in all merchantable and marketable articles prevailed, and apparently will continue for a long time. But if we compare the poultry trade with any other staple business, we will find that poultrymen are more favored than any other class of producers in the country.

As soon as eggs become cheap unusual quantities are at once consumed. The poorer classes forsake meat, and substitute this preferable diet. Then, besides, if poultry products are low, grain is also low; and this is a great consideration in favor of the poultry keeper, for if he buys grain it is cheap—and on the other hand, if he has grain to sell, the price he would get for it is so very low that he had better turn it into eggs and fowls.—*Poultry World.*



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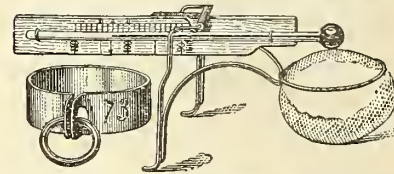


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(1.) 3 Tuberosus Begonia Bulbs, distinct colors. 3 Gladioli Bulbs, distinct colors. (2.) 1 pkt. Breck's New Life Pea, 1 pkt. Breck's Premier Sweet Corn.

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EGGS FOR HATCHING. Write for prices. Stamp for reply.

Express Rates.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

Referring to friend Cooper's warning in your issue of Feb. 15th, regarding express rates on fancy poultry, wish to say that as far as the west is concerned, it is entirely uncalled for; and I believe that the same rule that governs express offices out here will apply to any and all companies anywhere in the United States.

I have, since Nov. 15th, shipped probably seventy-five coops of fancy poultry, every one of which was cloth lined, and I have in every case insisted on knowing what the single rate would be on each shipment, and have advised my customers accordingly by postal card, with request that if anything in excess of the amount named by me was charged, to take a receipt and send to me, and I would guarantee to refund the overcharge.

Of all my shipments just one case of overcharge was reported to me, and on taking the matter up with the express company, the amount was refunded within ten days.

My fifteen years experience in the claims department of a railroad company justifies me in saying that small overcharges are just as annoying to the railroad companies (and the same will apply to all express companies) as they are to the shippers or consignees, and instructions are continually posted cautioning clerks against such mistakes; but railroad and express company's clerks are held personally responsible for the collection of proper and correct charges, with the result that where there is a doubt, the higher rate is charged, and having gone in the books that way, necessitates what most people term "red tape" to get it off, but which is nothing more or less than following the regular methods of book-keeping in large corporations.

It may not be out of place to say that the restitution of overcharges are very much simplified by attaching the proper evidence with a plain statement of facts. Affidavits, and the assistance of attorneys (especially the attorneys) are entirely unnecessary, until after the railroad or express companies have positively declined to adjust.

The radical change in the shipping of fancy poultry is so great that it is simply impossible to avoid some mistakes, and the point I wish to convey is that where such mistakes occur they can and will be rectified if taken in hand in the manner as above suggested. I agree with Mr. Cooper that we should do nothing to antagonize the benefits we are now enjoying; but to show more conclusively that we are not jeopardizing this benefit, I will quote from the very latest instruction issued by express companies, as follows:—

"Cloth covered coops:—Coops made of wood, of a strength and size that would be acceptable for transportation, without any cloth covering, at the single rate, may be accepted at same rate when an additional covering in part or in whole of cloth is added to protect the fowls from draught or injury. Double rate should be charged on coops on which cloth is used for the purpose of making the coop enclosing and confining the fowls, and which would not be safe and satisfactory shipping coops without the cloth."

This is so plain that cloth covered coops may be used, and with so comparative little detriment, that the fancy poultry interest have virtually got what they have wanted for years.

Another point which I have investigated, and which do doubt will interest a great many, is that exhibition poultry—that is, birds sent to a poultry show or a fair, under this classification must pay charges both ways. If you only pay single rates on your birds going to the show you must pay the same for their return. If, however, you ship them in all muslin coops, paying double rates, you are entitled to free return.

Sutter, Mo. HENRY STEINMESCH.

The Great Boston Show.

The report of this monster show given by FARM-POULTRY of February 1st, is worthy of the occasion. A dozen illustrations of prize winners, sketched for the pages of the Boston advocate of thoroughbred poultry, and half-tone views of the displays of dressed poultry and eggs adorned the report. The field was fully covered by FARM-POULTRY, and western fanciers should send for a copy of that issue.—*American Poultry Journal*.

Buying Cheap Stock.

BY MR. HUNTER.

We sometimes most heartily wish we didn't own a "chicken!" It would be more correct to say we sometimes heartily wish we didn't have any birds to sell for breeding stock, nor "eggs for hatching;" still, that side of the business brings so many interesting and instructive things to our notice we feel that we might be rather narrow-minded without the experience which that part of the business gives. A case right here near home, is a good example.

Early in December last we received a letter which read, "Please advise me at what price you will sell to me one dozen each of Barred Plymouth Rock and Lt. Brahma pullets of last April or May hatch. I want good, strong, healthy birds, and if I buy them must do so at a low price, as they are for family use." As we had quite a lot of surplus stock at that time, we replied that we would sell him the twenty-four birds for \$30, \$1.25 apiece, with the understanding that he wanted them for layers and sitters, not for breeding stock; our intention being to sell him cull-pullets—good layers, but not quite good enough for breeders.

In a few days came a reply from which we quote:—"The price, although it seems to be low when compared with that usually obtained for fancy stock, yet it is high for me, as I want the birds only for family use. My hatch of chicks the last spring was very small, and the small hatch was further depleted by surreptitious sales by a dishonest employee, so I am now almost without young stock. I was intending to replenish from farms about me in Plymouth county, but seeing your advertisement thought you might be so situated that I could get them of you with less trouble and at about the same cost. I expected to pay for the Plymouth Rocks \$9 per dozen, and for the Light Brahmas \$10 per dozen. I do not feel like asking you to sell at that price, but if you have a surplus, and would care to do so, I would take as above. I should use them only for their eggs and personal family use."

It was clearly of no use to continue the correspondence, but we were interested, and wrote that our birds were worth close upon his figures to sell alive to market; that they had been bred and reared for layers, and were then beginning to lay; that they should lay \$1.50 worth of eggs apiece within the next six months; would be worth fifty cents apiece as sitters, and then, after they had weaned their chicks, would sell in the market alive at fifty to sixty cents apiece; clearly, they were "cheap enough"—were a bargain at \$1.25 apiece.

In due time came the following:—"I confess to extreme ignorance in poultry matters; in fact, my whole experience in farming affairs is a continuous series of blunders and disappointments. With me high-bred poultry in a short time degenerates into veritable 'scrubs.' My farm is situated upon 'the Cape,' a locality which has some little reputation for the eggs which it furnishes to the market, which led me to suppose the fowls themselves must be generally healthy and prolific. There are some farms that carry a stock of birds numbering thousands, others hundreds, but the great majority usually have from fifty to a hundred. The creatures carry themselves with an air of importance and impressive dignity as they hustle about, that indicates they do not regard themselves as 'scrubs.' The young maturing birds from the flocks are usually sold to itinerant dealers who travel that section picking them up at twelve cents a pound live weight. This year the price has been down, ten cents being a common price. A man who has about four hundred birds is breaking up, and sent word to me that I might have the pick of his flock at fifty cents apiece. I have not done anything with him, as his stock is considerably mixed, and I thought it better to pay a little more and get pure breeds. The price which I named to you was fifty per cent more than this man asked me for his scrubs; but if this price seems to you too low and you think it would be economy for me to pay it, then I will make the price \$12 per dozen to you, which is one hundred per cent more than I can buy of the farmer near me."

We declined his offer with thanks, and advised him to continue his series of blunders by buying the "scrubs," which, no doubt,

were of the habitual late-maturing kind that didn't come to laying till towards spring, hence would be dear even as a gift, and were certainly loaded with lice, etc. It is useless to argue with such a man. He is so dense he cannot see that early laying stock is worth five times as much as the fifty cent scrubs; that birds having the early laying and prolific laying habit will pay for themselves twice over before the late-maturing scrubs will lay at all. His "series of blunders and disappointments" would be amusing if they were not pitiable, and—there are several of him!

Improvement in the Poultry Business.

Each year finds us making great strides in the poultry industry, begun only a few years ago. Until within the last fifteen or twenty years the poultry on most of our farms consisted of a very inferior lot of mongrels, bred in and in for no one knows how many years, without a single outcross to give strength to the flock. The business was carried on the take-care-of-itself basis. The results were trifling. During April and May there was a supply of eggs; one hundred to one hundred and fifty hens would turn out ten or fifteen dozen a week, perhaps. The season for eggs was soon over, and in due time two hens would march out with one chick, another with one or two, and rarely one with eight or ten. No more eggs till next spring, except a few scattering ones in nice fall weather; and an egg in winter was regarded as almost an impossibility. Fried chicken was not indulged in until August or September. How is it now? On many of these farms there has been a great change. The flock has changed from one of many colors to one uniform throughout as to shape, color and general make-up. We will not, perhaps, see any more chickens on the farm, but we will see the good housewife coming in with thirty-five to forty eggs from fifty hens. They are all of one breed, all of one age, or nearly so; all fed alike, and each day at the same hour. Instead of a diet entirely of corn, a change is the great object—one time wheat, another oats, with a soft feed cool mornings, etc. All these help to fill the egg basket. Why keep one hundred hens to supply you with eggs when half that number will do it better upon the improved plan? A good house is provided; the barn is closed underneath to prevent them roosting there; cleanliness is the order of the day; roosts, nest boxes, everything is looked after at least once a week.

In many farm homes the incubator is gaining favor. I know several farmers who are using hatchers with good success. The manufacturers have lowered their prices until almost anyone can afford to get one. We are using a 200-egg machine that cost only \$20, and it works equal to any. We find that the farmers around us are using them with success. We can in this way get out early chickens, sell and use the cockerels for broilers, and raise the pullets for prime winter layers. Two batches of chickens from the incubator gives about as many chickens as is needed unless one is making a business of raising chickens. The brooder takes care of them in a nice business-like way, and the hen has nothing to do but to shell out the eggs to fill the hatcher, and everything works like a clock. Instead of the farmer trading roosters with Tom, Dick and the other fellow, he spends about \$5 for two good ones, and says it is about the best investment he can make. We are under obligations in many cases to the good wife for the improvement in this line. She generally takes the lead, dragging her growling husband along behind. He now begins to be ashamed of himself, and to claim all the honors—but we know better. See how the industry has grown. There are poultry farms scattered all over the country. Rich men are beginning to see the profit in it, and are opening up in grand style. Gov. Morton, of New York, has a large and finely equipped poultry ranch in that state. The plant was burned nearly three years ago, but he has rebuilt it, and is going it again. George Vanderbilt, on his great estate in North Carolina, has a large poultry department for broilers, and has his houses well stocked with good, thoroughbred fowls. It is only the last few years that such men have taken this in hand. They see the possibilities of the business, and as a result are willing to try it.—*Wisconsin Farmer*.

"Hatched in April" and "Laid in September"

Is what Henry Raman, of Grand Rapids, Mich., says his chicks did last year, and he gives the credit for it to

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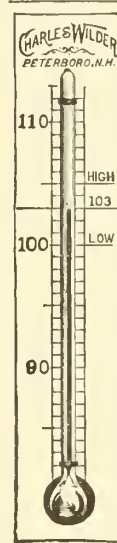
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FIRST-CLASS Birds for sale at reasonable prices. SPECIAL RATES made those wanting large numbers. PARTICULAR ATTENTION given to mating for best results in breeding, according to POINTS and PEDIGREE.

EGGS From SELECTED MATINGS of EXHIBITION BIRDS, at \$3.00 per sitting of 13 Eggs; \$5.00 for 2 sittings; \$7.00 for 3 sittings; \$10.00 for 5 sittings, carefully packed and delivered to Express in BOSTON.

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Twenty-nine regular prizes; 14 gold specials at New York and Washington this year. \$5 Buff Leghorn Club cup for best exhibit at Washington. Eggs \$3 per 13. No discount.

Black Langshans, Minorcas,
and Blue Barred Rocks,
AS GOOD AS THE BUFFS.

Eggs \$2 per 13; \$5 per 39. Stock \$2 per head, and upwards.

E. P. SHEPHERD,

Lock Box 2, Croton Falls, N. Y.
Sec'y and Treas. Buff Leg. Club.

Another Farmer's Wife's Way.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

Dear me! Here it is almost sugaring time again, and I have hardly done anything I meant to all winter! There are those chairs and stands to varnish, and that oilcloth in the front entry too—and I haven't made a rug or sewed a single rag for the carpet that is needed so badly in the west bedroom; and there is all my summer sewing; I haven't set a stitch in that yet. Well, the teacher has gone—(we've been boarding her this term)—and now that school is over, perhaps I can get a little help from the boy; at any rate, I mean to try.

And I've just been aching to put in my oar ament the farmer's wife and hen question ever since I saw Mrs. Bee's letter last August. That provoked me then, and it has been rankling ever since. But my hands have been so tied with work that I had to let it go, hoping some other sister of the craft would, in her indignation, boil over into print; but I have waited in vain. No one has come to the rescue of the farmer's wife—so if the subject hasn't been dead and buried too long to be resurrected, I'll say my say now, and if you don't print it, Mr. Editor, woe be unto you!

I fully agree with Fanny Field, that "precious few farm women with a family on their hands can take the time to properly care for fifty hens and raise one hundred and fifty chicks a year." I know that is so, for I have tried it, and broken down in the attempt.

Now I don't quarrel with my husband's occupation a mite—I love the farm, and the "earth hunger" is so strong within me that I am apt to overestimate my strength in my desire to get out onto the ground. I dearly love to see things grow—plants, chicks, calves, little pigs, and all—and to help push them along, too, and so do all the farmers' wives I know; but I know of no woman situated as Mrs. Bee is, who calls herself a farmer's wife. According to her own account her husband is away one-half the time teaming, etc.; she says nothing about hired help to board the year round. She makes no butter for market—does not even have the care of the milk—and her children old enough to be helpers, too.

Now just look at a farmer's work out here, and judge for yourself what that of his wife must be. The season opens with sugaring. The farmer must have help about that, for there are tubs to set, sap to gather from one to three times a day, and evaporator to be kept running. The housewife must board the help, clarify and boil down the syrup to the right weight and can it after it comes from the sugar house—or stir sugar, if she makes that, until her arms are ready to drop off—keep on with the regular work, churn twice a week as usual, and this at a time when she should have sitting hens to attend to and chicks coming off. She cannot count on her Sundays for rest even, for sugaring goes on according to the weather; if there is a good run of sap the farmer must run the evaporator nights and Sundays as well as week days.

Next come ploughing, hauling manure, and planting outdoors, and cleaning house within; while it is time to begin churning three times a week—and those chicks must be fed six times a day, besides all the other hen-work. The poor woman must keep right on boarding help through hoeing, haying and harvesting, with the difference only of going to the garden to get her table supplies of vegetables and berries, which, (though she likes to do it), certainly takes time. Now, during this hot, hurried season, if she has done fairly well by her chicks, she may take a dozen or two broilers to pick every week for her fancy work.

But with the cooler weather of October she needs to churn but twice a week, which is a help; but she wants all the extra time and more, to can and preserve her fruit and tomatoes, make jellies, put up her family stock of pickles, and do the fall cleaning before killing time comes, when the trying of lard, care of hams and pork, head-cheese and sausage-meat claim her attention—for she lives too far from the market, as a rule, to depend wholly on them—she must be pushing on those pullets toward laying, also, and plan her next season's breeding hens, getting good males to renew the blood, too.

She is lucky indeed if her husband does not have to hire extra help to chop for him during the winter, but relies on the regular help to get out cord wood for sale, fell timber, and cut up the year's supply for firewood, draw out logs to mill, cord wood to customers, and sugar-wood to the sap house—watching all the time for a good chance to cut and store ice for the creamer, draw saw-dust to pack it in, and kill his fat pigs again before sugaring comes around to interfere. But she may board the teacher instead, which, while it is vastly more pleasant, is just as apt to knock her winter's fancy work in the head.

Now, Mr. Editor, it isn't because I don't like hens, that I complain of Mrs. Bee's letter, for that I do my flock of seventy-five thoroughbreds and first crosses shows; nor is it because I think Fanny Field needs a champion, for she seems fully able to take care of herself, and while others gibe at her and call her hens names, she can trot out her facts and figures and crow over them every time; but I do think Fanny Field knows what she is talking about when she tells farmers' wives just how much time it takes to care for chicks and keep hens in good laying trim, for I have tried it now for nearly six years, and though cheap indoor brooders have made the work lots easier, and I am just trying an incubator to get rid of sitting hens (being unwilling to give up the addition to our income that hens make) yet I know that the average farmer's wife has too much to do out doors and in already, and she should know just how much work hens will make in order to get any profit from them, and consider whether she has time and strength to do that in addition to all the other work she must do.

But farm and house work is not all a farmer's wife has to do. With all this we belong to the choir, my good man and I, and we are usually to be depended upon to help in the singing at neighborhood sociables and at funerals, as well as at church. Then as a member of the school committee I must visit schools, correspond with teachers, attend committee meetings, and help write town and state reports. This year we have been repairing our church also; and after the outside work was done, we women (after the fashion of Samanthia Allen), took hold on the inside, and to save money that we should find it still harder to earn, washed walls for the decorator and varnished pews and woodwork ourselves, besides doing all the cleaning.

I've said nothing whatever about company, invited or unexpected, or the peddler or traveling agent, who must be entertained, because there is no hotel in the place—truly, "the half has not been told" even yet, about the work of the farmer's wife.

But I must stop and lie down awhile, my head aches so, for I was up late last night at a church committee meeting (drove my own team too), for Mr. D. was up all the night before with a sick neighbor, and I hated to keep him up so late again. Mrs. D.

Leyden, Mass.

P. S. Have just heard that our neighbor has died—funeral tomorrow, rehearsal at 11 A. M. and services at house at 12—so I shall have to give up my nap, "spring to" and do a baking, for there will only be time to churn and get the butter put up before we have to start.

P. P. S. Tell Fanny Field to keep right on. I'm getting lots of help from her. Am experimenting with crosses myself, and think I may like them better than thoroughbreds. Wish I could have one solid hour talk with her. You see, nobody around here is willing to pay more than the market rates for either fowls or eggs. (I've had some funny experiences with people who try to get something extra for little or nothing.) So market poultry and eggs are my strong holds. Mrs. D.

How He Kills Lice.

W. D. Congheour, So. Enid, Oklahoma, gives FARM-POULTRY this method of getting rid of lice in the hen house. He says: Take a two ounce bottle of carbolic acid, tie a string around the neck of the bottle, and take the cork out. Hang about half way between the ceiling and the floor, and I will guarantee you will have no more lice. It is also a good idea to sprinkle a little of the acid on the floor or perches of the house.

Pocket Book Pointers for 1896.

We have received Lambert's "Pocket Book Pointers" for 1896; and while the much advertised "Portraits of Poultrymen" do not come up to our expectations, being comparatively few in number and (as a rule) poorly printed, the *Pointers* as a whole is a very satisfactory performance, and will enhance the already phenomenally great popularity of Lambert's "Death to Lice," which, of course, it is put forth to advertise. The title page tells us it takes 98,000 copies of *Pointers* to satisfy the demand this year; and we cannot but think it would have been well worth the additional hundred dollars it would have cost to have the pamphlet well printed; a poorly printed circular always looks cheap, "cheapens" the maker of it.

The pamphlet itself consists of seventy-two pages and cover, and the list of agents and dealers is put in a "supplement" of twelve pages. This list of dealers is the gem of the publication, and has been greatly improved by arranging the towns in each state alphabetically. Some hasty work is seen in this, however, the nine dealers in Boston being scattered among the "Bs" under Massachusetts—while in Rhode Island, Providence (ten) and Pawtucket (six) are badly mixed up with other "Ps." It is gratifying to know that "Dan" is not without honor in his own country, and we note three dealers right there in his own town of Apponang; while the little state of Rhode Island has sixty-five dealers. Connecticut, on the west has one hundred and twenty-six, and Massachusetts, adjoining on the north and east, leads with one hundred and thirty-four dealers, and from that they drop down to one each in the District of Columbia, Alabama, Utah, Manitoba, Nevada, Oregon and Montana. Colorado has but two agencies, and California but three—but the list as a whole is remarkably complete, and speaks volumes for Lambert's energy and push.

An excellent example of his business ability is seen in "a new plan" on the third cover page of the *Pointers*, in which he describes his method of delivering to his customers from different express centres and wholesale depots; that is very well worked out.

The *Pointers* for 1896 will be sent free to any address on request sent to D. J. Lambert, Apponang, R. I.

A Self-Improved Incubator.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

I heard a story the other day that may interest FARM-POULTRY readers. We were talking up incubators, each one, of course, praising some special make. An old gentleman present said the first incubator he ever saw was in California, about 1854. He was working in his barn yard one day, when he heard a strange noise similar to that made by a snake. He turned to his man and said, "Jose, there is a snake around here somewhere." The gentleman had had some experience with rattlesnakes, and was inclined to be very cautious. Soon the noise was repeated and seemed to come from a harrel of empty bottles near by. He started to investigate in a very careful way. Again he heard the sound, and this time it was more like the peep of a chicken. He looked over into the barrel and there found that a hen had stolen her nest, and in some way the hottles had fallen over it after she had laid a few eggs. Among the eggs was a solitary chicken; three more broke forth the next morning. The remaining eggs were had. Now for the explanation. For nearly two weeks it had been extremely hot; several days the thermometer registered 114° in the sun. The gentleman's idea was that the first week it had been hot enough to start the eggs, and the last weeks the hottles became so hot under the rays of that burning sun that they retained heat enough during the night to protect the eggs. He raised his chickens to maturity, and was very proud of his bottle-hatched chicks.

Waterbury, Conn.

C. R. R.

BEST OF ANY VARIETY!

Was the award given to my collection of

Barred Plymouth Rocks

At the great Boston show. See ad. opp. title page.
GROVE HILL POULTRY YARDS,
Box 401, Waltham, Mass.



A POOR WHEEL is like a poor horse—it costs more than its worth to keep it.

In the Monarch

the necessity of repair has been reduced to a minimum. Its strength, lightness, and beauty make it a marvel of modern mechanical skill.

The Monarch IS UNDOUBTEDLY KING OF WHEELS

A wheel that you can depend upon in any emergency. Made in four models—\$80 and \$100. The "Defiance"—made in eight models—\$40, \$50, \$60 and \$75. Send for the Monarch book.

Monarch Cycle Mfg. Co., Chicago, Ill.

83 Reade Street, New York, 3 and 5 Front Street, San Francisco.

ARATOMA FARM,

Breeders of

Thoro'bred Poultry.

The best strains of

S. C. White Leghorns,
Barred Plymouth Rocks,
Silver Wyandottes,
White Wyandottes,
Black Langshans,
Light Brahmas,
Pekin Ducks,
M. B. Turkeys.

This farm contains 185 acres, and the poultry buildings cover 22,000 square feet.

EGGS FOR HATCHING:

S. C. White Leghorns,	\$1.50 per 13
B. P. Rocks,	1.50 per 13
Silver Wyandottes,	2.00 per 13
White Wyandottes,	2.00 per 13
Light Brahmas,	2.00 per 13
Black Langshans,	2.50 per 13
Pekin Ducks,	1.25 per 12
M. B. Turkeys,	2.50 per 9

HENRY T. OTIS, Manager,
P. O. Box 205, Katonah, Westchester Co., N. Y.
WM. C. CASEY, Proprietor.



Cures Corns, Warts, Bunions, etc. So easy to apply—it sticks fast. Ask for Dent's; take no other. Sold everywhere, or by mail 10 cents. C. S. DENT & CO. DETROIT, MICH.

Try Dent's Toothache Gum.

The Costello Grit Machine



Will crush the hardest rock, do it easily, and make the grit just right; \$3.50 everywhere. Single rate.

SHIPPING COOP.

All sizes in stock, \$1.50 per doz. and up.

THE COSTELLO BOX.

For shipping fancy stock eggs is the handiest, safest and best thing you can use. Illustrated catalogue of these and other goods.

Barred P. Rocks, bred for utility. Eggs, \$1 per 13; incubator eggs, \$4 per 100.

C. W. COSTELLO, 25, Waterboro, Me.

"UP-TO-DATE" SPRAY PUMPS

EXPRESS PAID

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Refunded. Endorsed by Leading Entomologists. 60,000 in use. We are U.S. Headquarters for Spray Pumps, and Insecticides. Catalogue, Spray Calendar, and full Treatise on Spraying, FREE.

\$17 SPRAYING OUTFIT \$5.50 EXPRESS PAID, FOR P. C. LEWIS MFG. CO., Box 157 Catskill, N.Y.

CLIMAX LEG BANDS

Win on their merits. Unsurpassed for neatness, lightness, security and durability.

PRICES.

30c PER DOZ.
50c PER 25;
90c PER 50;
\$1.75 PER 100.

Give size and numbering wanted. Circular and Sample, 3 cents.

L. J. DAVIS, Mfr., Box 263, Olivet, Mich. Pat. Applied For.

Wh. Wyandottes vs. B. P. Rocks.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

My experience in poultry keeping dates back to the time when I was a very small boy. When I first began to take an active interest in poultry I cannot positively state, but when I was about five years of age I distinctly remember my father "swapping roosters" with a neighbor, and of my giving him no peace until he traded back, because I did not see the way the neighbor's rooster crowed.

These were common "dunghills," and our first investment in "blooded stock" was the purchase, a few years later, of a dozen Light Brahma pullets. Our henhouse at that time was a little slanty on the north side of the woodshed—no windows in it—the door on the north end, so no ray of sunlight ever found its way into that building; but the way those pullets laid that winter has always been a bright spot in my poultry experience.

We kept the Brahmas several years, but they proved unsatisfactory on account of coming so late to maturity. I have often thought that if Brahmas were like onions, so you could start them late in the season, pick them away during the winter, and finish up their growth the next season, what a fine fowl they would be.

When the P. Rocks first found their way into this section we procured some of them, and for over twenty years they held their own against all comers. Always on the lookout for something better, I tried Leghorns, Minorcas, White P. Rocks, and some others; but found nothing that could equal the old favorites. But at last I ran against a snag in breeding them. My first P. Rocks were very large, the hens frequently weighing nine, and the males twelve pounds. Bred from single matings, they were uniform in color, and in general appearance far superior to the flocks seen today. For a long time I was able to introduce fresh blood from nearby flocks, but at last had to send away, and then trouble began. Cockerels from double matings destroyed that uniformity of color, while cockerels from fancy and inbred stock began to reduce the size; and at last I had the satisfaction of seeing my once fine flock of B. P. Rocks deteriorate into a lot of culls. Doubtless I could have cleaned out my old stock, started in new, and aided by my dearly bought experience, recovered my lost ground—but I did better.

In January, 1904, I bought a pen of White Wyandotte pullets, of the original "Briggs strain." They were late hatched, and did not lay until the following month. I was struck at first with the large size of their eggs. These first eggs exceeded in size the eggs from my B. P. Rocks that had been laying since November. I have since found this to be the case with this strain of Wyandottes, they rarely lay any small eggs.

Speaking of strains, I will have something to say of that later. The first season I bred from two cockerels. The first one used was a small trim built bird, and his chicks were all under-sized, and the pullets laid very small, light colored eggs, although the eggs they were hatched from were very dark. (Here's a text for a future sermon, Mr. Editor: "The influence the male has on the color of the eggs laid by his pullets.") The chicks from this first mating were unsatisfactory, and were all sold. The second cockerel used was from the same strain as the pullets, and the results were very different. Pullets from this mating were very large, eggs almost a brick color, and average weight of pullets' eggs seven to the pound.

Now commenced the trial of the Wyandottes and P. Rocks. A pen of these Wyandottes were put alongside a pen of P. Rocks, the conditions in each pen being as nearly equal as I could make them. In number of eggs obtained, there was no difference as I could see. (I regret that I did not keep an exact account of the experiment; but as I was doing it for my own benefit, and never thought to write it up, did not deem it necessary to do so.) In size and color of eggs, the Wyandottes were far ahead. In amount of food consumed, the difference was so great in favor of the Wyandottes as to decide the trial in their favor even if every other point had gone against them. They are the smallest eaters for fowls of their size that I ever saw. Other breeders who have tried the two breeds side by side tell the same story. As a friend said to me this winter, "My P. Rocks are the biggest logs I ever saw; they eat twice as much as

my Wyandottes"—and he was right. In disposition, I find the Wyandottes much the quieter. As sitters they are easier to move to new nests—rarely making any objection.

For dressing at an early age there can be but one opinion, and that is that the Wyandottes are much the superior of the P. Rocks. No dark pin feathers to mar the appearance of the dressed bird, while they are plumper and heavier breasted. In weight of mature birds, the P. Rocks have a little advantage, but not as much as most people believe. A pure White Wyandotte falls but little below the best P. Rocks, and exceeds the majority—pure Wyandotte males weighing ten pounds, and females weighing eight, are to be found in goodly numbers. I say pure Wyandottes—and right here comes the question of strain. Many so-called White Wyandottes are a cross of Silver Laced Wyandottes and White Leghorns. The characteristics by which these may be known are small size, trim shape, pale yellow legs and beak, and small light colored eggs.

To sum up—the Wyandottes excel in the following points: Size and color of eggs; small amount of food consumed; as dressed poultry; and in quiet disposition. If you care for the looks of your flock, (and who doesn't?) their pure white color forms a pleasing contrast to the variety of shades found in a flock of P. Rocks.

A flock of White Wyandottes, with their snowy plumage, clean orange-yellow legs and beaks, and bright red combs, forms as pleasing a picture as I ever expect to see in poultry-dom.

A better hen may be created—but certainly has not as yet. RUSH VAUGHAN.

South Poinfret, Vt.

White Hollands.

It has been said that every man has his "hobby;" this no doubt is, in the main, true; suffice to say it is true as concerns the writer of this article. Now, I believe that if a man must have a hobby he should ride it, so to speak, else what use is it to him? So I will proceed to mount mine in this way: I take a special liking to fowls, and distinctly prefer a fowl of white plumage; I wouldn't have any other color on my farm. I breed pure chickens, ducks, geese, guineas and turkeys, and all are of the pure white varieties; a purchaser wanting other colors will not find them in my yards; my fowls attract much attention; expressions of "oh, how nice," and "they are beauties," being common ones, and such praise amply repays one for the care, attention in selecting, rearing, etc. But I have not arrived at exactly what I wanted to say: I advertised that I breed the White Holland variety of turkeys; that is no lie; I have them, and after having raised the Bronze, Narragansetts, and the White Hollands, I would keep nothing but the latter, all arguments of the Bronze breeders to the contrary notwithstanding. Now for my reasons, and I think them irrefutable: They are easier kept; never wander away, and therefore do not mix with our neighbors' flocks; they are easier fattened than other breeds; while more domesticated than others they rustle enough to be healthy.

They occupy the "happy medium" in weight, and fill the wants of the dealers exactly. The heavy weight fowl must take a rear seat, for the White Holland, whose carcass when dressed and drawn weighs, at twelve months, eight to eighteen pounds, is just what the average size family wants, leaving the heavy weights for the hotels and restaurants, and such consumers. They are more easily dressed; have no hairs or pin feathers; neat is clear and creamy in tinge, very attractive to the trucksters, and appetizing to the epicure.

I have shown why this breed is best adapted for general breeding. Now, one point: Every breeder is aware of the difficulty met with in breeding to colored feather; and those who have bred both dark and white fancy fowls know how much easier it is to get nice ones of the latter than of the former. I have no quarrel with breeders of other varieties, but believe the White Holland the better market fowl.—*American Poultry Advocate*.

FARM-POULTRY's six-page illustrated write-up of the late Boston show in the issue of February 1, is one of the most complete things in poultry literature we have ever seen.—*National Stockman and Farmer*.

Utilizing Table Scraps.

The scraps from the table of a large family, with the addition of an evening feed of whole wheat, will generally be sufficient to maintain a good sized flock of fowls. And there being so much variety in these kitchen scraps, they form the very best ration for egg production.

The large poultry farms very often pay for the waste from big hotels, and find it not only the best but the cheapest food they could purchase.

A recent issue of the *Boston Globe* gave some interesting facts concerning the general use of the waste from the large Boston hotels and restaurants, from which we make the following extracts:

Great care is exercised in the first place to prepare as nearly as possible just the requisite amount, but unforeseen circumstances are of course frequently presenting themselves which completely frustrate the steward's nicest calculations.

Bad weather, for instance, or some other casualty may keep away half the guests of a banquet, in which case a large amount of perishable food is left unconsumed. Even in such instances, however, very little is absolutely wasted.

First, after the guests have departed, it has to run the gauntlet of the waiters, who have lost none of their appreciation of the sweet flavor of the wing of a canvasback, or of a larded grouse, through frequent handling.

Each man saves for himself a portion of the remains, and after a large dinner a great store of dainties may be found concealed beneath the steam pipes arranged for warming the covers, where they are kept nice and hot for the jolly supper which follows.

This custom of pilfering dainties is condoned by the proprietors of most of the large hotels, and there is a tacit understanding generally that the waiters may avail themselves of whatever is left by the guests, provided the privilege is not flagrantly abused.

Still, even so large a force as that employed by the Vendome or the Adams House is not sufficient to dispose of nearly all this surplus food, so recourse to other methods is found necessary.

Young's and the Parker House have solved the problem by purchasing a large farm at New Boston, N. H., to which they ship every day between fifteen and twenty barrels of broken food for the pigs and poultry. Thus the fragments of bread, vegetables and meat, which would otherwise be wasted, return to the table again, converted into roast chickens, ducks, turkeys, and sides of sweet pork.

Fifteen hundred hogs is the number which this big farm constantly has on hand fattening for these two hotels, and one hundred gallons of cream and one hundred and eighty gallons of milk are sent to Boston every day to supply the tables.

The other hotels in town, which do not have a country farm, resort to various other methods for disposing of surplus food. Some sell it to farmers, who come around daily after it, and others to the proprietors of the stockyards in Brighton.

That's When.

When does advertising pay?

When the darkness follows day,
When the winter precedes spring,
When the song birds learn to sing,
When the deaf no longer hear,
When the anarchist loves beer,
When the chickens feathers wear,
When the sailor learns to swear,
When the shiftless go in debt,
When the running streams are wet,
When the tramp for leisure years,
When the ice no longer burns.
When the business man is wise—
That's the time to advertise.

—Kansas City Journal.

Is Commonsense.

I have been reading your paper, and am pleased with the amount of common sense it contains. H. B. S., Summit, N. J.

\$50 FOR \$3.

Fifty dollars was the price asked me for a Barred Plymouth Rock cock hatched from one sitting of eggs from these yards, at a cost of three dollars. But these yards are full of "good ones." See ad. opp. title page. GROVE HILL POULTRY YARDS, Box 401, Waltham, Mass.

Spring Chicks



Grow steadily every day if they are given one feeding each day of

"Bradley's Superior Meat-Meal."

This all-cooked food is easily digested, and being made from selected meat and bones, furnishes just the needed food at exactly the right time.

If you want to know all about it, send postal card for FREE copy of "Feeding for Growth and Eggs."

Bradley Fertilizer Co. BOSTON.



"Stop that Cackling,"

SAID THE HEN TO THE ROOSTER,

"YOU DIDN'T LAY THE EGG!"

It is so with prize winners. If we had to buy them we wouldn't cackle about their winnings.

54 Premiums in 3 Shows,

and every bird bred on our farm.
Pekin Duck eggs, \$2 for 12; \$5 for 50; \$8 for 100.
White Wyandotte, \$2 for 13. No discount.

POLLARD'S DUCK FARM,

Pawtucket, R. I.

15 LARGE PKTS. NEW FLOWER SEEDS FOR ONLY 15 CENTS

To pay postage and packing:
1 pkt. New Japanese Imperial Morning Glory (as shown in cut). This grand new variety is truly Wonderful! Flowers very large, all colors, red, green, maroon fringed, white spotted with blue, and all of incomparable beauty.
1 pkt. Mammoth Fanny, 1 pkt. Cosmos, 1 pkt. Crimson Eye Hibiscus, 1 pkt. Chinese Pink, 1 pkt. Aster, 1 pkt. Gaillardia, 1 pkt. Geranium, 1 pkt. Larkspur, 1 pkt. Gant.
Coxcomb, 1 pkt. Sweet Alyssum, 1 pkt. Candytuft, 1 pkt. Mignonette, 1 pkt. Phlox, 1 pkt. Sweet Pea. 15 large packets choice vegetable seeds, all different kinds 15 cts. 15 bulbs New Gladiolus 15 cts. We will send the three collections for **Only 25 Cents**. Remember we refund your money if not as represented.
J. ROSCOE FULLER & CO., Floral Park, N. Y.

Breeding Prize Winners

Is not a matter of

LUCK,

but of selection and careful mating. I intend to raise some of next year's prize winning

S. C. Br. LEGHORNS

—AND—

Black Minorcas.

B. M. cockerel "Black Raven," (96), first at Boston show, heads pen No. 1 with 10 pullets, scoring 92 to 95. I have three B. Leghorn pens mated for pullets and two for cockerels, containing some of the best stock in the country, as show records prove. 95 B. L. hen; 97 B. L. pullet; 98 B. M. cockerel; 95 B. M. pullet, are some of the scores secured by my birds at leading shows this season. "Like begets like."
Eggs, \$2 for 15; \$3.75 for 30; \$5 for 45.
E. BERTRAM PIKE, Pike Station, N. H.

WIRE HENS' NESTS,

15 cents each. See Clough's catalogue.

EGG CASES,

Everything you need. See Clough's Cat.

WIRE NETTING,

See Clough's Catalogue.

POULTRY BOOKS,

See Clough's Catalogue.

POULTRY AND EGGS,

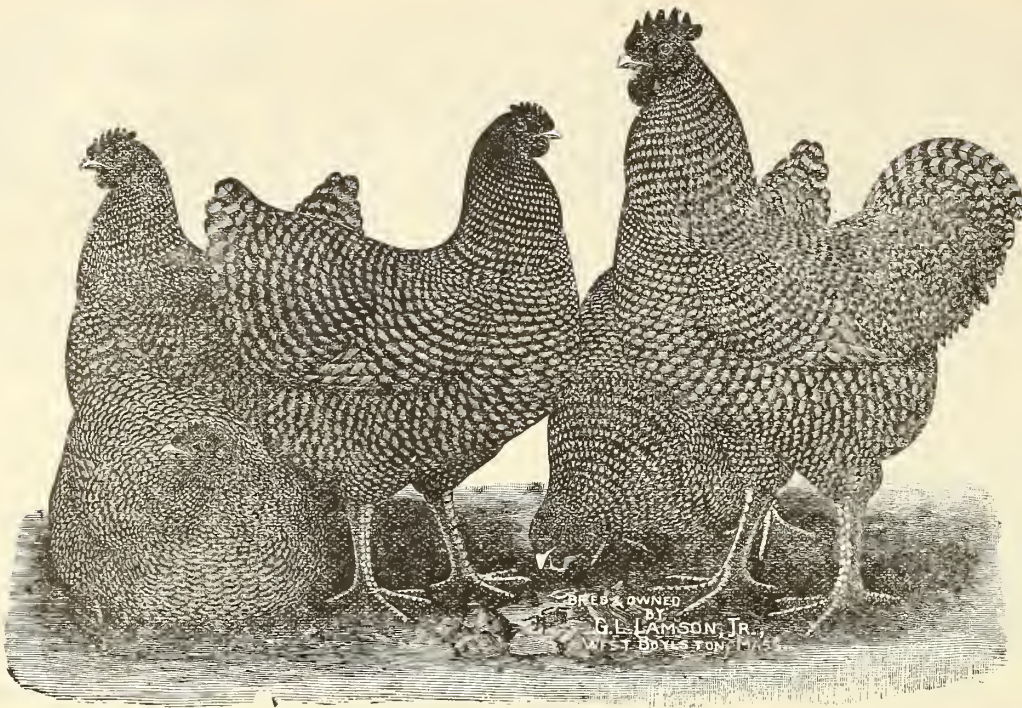
See Clough's Catalogue.

2c. STAMP

Entitles you to see

CLOUGH'S CATALOGUE.

W. W. CLOUGH, Medway, Mass.



LAMSON'S PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

We are pleased to present to our readers this issue a fine illustration of a prize breeding pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks, bred and owned by Geo. L. Lamson, Jr., the noted breeder of this variety, whose birds during the past twelve years have been prize winners at the largest exhibitions held in this country. Mr. Lamson ships birds and eggs to all parts of this country, as well as England, Canada, South America, etc., with good results. He has just published a fine new circular giving a full list of prizes won by his famous strain of birds, and containing much valuable information, which he will be pleased to send all readers of FARM-POULTRY free of cost. Every one interested in fine fowls should take advantage of this offer, as it not only contains information of importance, but many other matters of interest to all poultrymen.

He has lately opened an office at 35 Pearl St., Worcester, Mass., his increasing business having made this move an absolute necessity. He still attends personally to all orders, however, as in the past, and can therefore guarantee satisfaction.

His breeding yards this season contain birds of the highest breeding and merit, and eggs from them are sure to produce the best results. Remember, that all orders for eggs or chickens, etc., should be addressed to Geo. L. Lamson, Jr., Box 641, Worcester, Mass., and not to the poultry farms at West Boylston, Mass. See his adv. page 139, and back cover this issue.

From the Farmer's Standpoint.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

Whether it is advisable for the man with the hoe to indulge in fancy poultry or not, assuming that his aim is eggs and fowls for market, is not by any means so clear as is commonly stated by fanciers. Outside of a very limited number utility breeding is largely unknown. Wherefore it has come to pass that the farmer can do as well with his "mongrels" as with a majority of the stock that passes for fancy. This I have demonstrated to my satisfaction by figures which would be as satisfactory to all others if it were desirable to repeat them now, which it is not, for almost any one who has tried it can supply his own illustrations. This fact has been appreciated by many who have still urged the securing of fancy fowls, the compensating profit on which is to come from the sale of eggs for hatching and breeding stock. Time was when that argument was potent, but now, in the face of the knowledge that the new man has no show in the fancy, and that he can only hope to make the business a success by standing on the shoulders of his competitors, a position only got after years of wearisome apprenticeship, and very insecure at best, it lacks force.

The unpleasant truth is that the fancy world is cursed with a struggling horde of small-fry fanciers, starving on the crumbs that fall from the table of a trade that does not spread the most luxurious feast in the world, even for those who have the chairs. It is impossible to put legitimate "fancy" blood in eggs at ten cents apiece. Neither can anything but culls be furnished for a dollar or two a head. Yet to this point has the trade been brought. A few get what good stock is worth. The rest do the best they can—for the money. And so it transpires that the multitude, demanding a sitting of eggs for a dollar and a cockerel for the same, get just what they pay for or a little less, and every year the available market is loaded with a new lot of dissatisfied and disgusted farmers who find their new fowls no more valuable in market points than their common stock, and very unsatisfactory from a fancy point of view.

The farmer wants utility breeding, not feathers. He buys thoroughbred bulls, fancy sheep and registered swine because they pay better than common stock. When more men are willing to pin their faith to their hens' money points, there will be more buyers.

May not some of this mass of cheap fanciers be persuaded to leave off struggling for the husks left them by—well, "established breed-

ers," and make a practical effort for the improvement of the market side of the hen business? It is just as easy to work up an egg laying strain or an early maturity strain or plump carcass strain as it is to waste time juggling with the hens' feathers. And it will pay. The hen-farming world is sighing for practical breeding, and the man who will seize the opportunity will strike it rich. A few are working in this line, and are making money. But there is plenty of room for more.

The fancy is shamefully overcrowded. Its interests would not suffer in the least if nine-tenths of those now in the mob would drop out and take up utility breeding. It would be a good thing for the nine-tenths, it would result in an enormous advancement in practical lines, and it would relieve the legitimate fancy of an enormous mill-stone, and they would at least have the opportunity of getting just remuneration for doing careful and honest work.

HOMER W. JACKSON.

Cambridge, O.

Honesty is the Best Policy.

In a business way we have no more use for a deliberate liar for pecuniary gain than we have for a rattlesnake. We can imagine a man lying reluctantly under trying circumstances, a man whom it would still do to tie to—but the liar for mere self is a liar clear through; the truth is not in him.

We have no heaven-sent commission to preach, but life teaches that nothing pays better than truth, than candor, than honesty, than straightforward common sense. It comes awkward at first, for the devil seems to be mixed all through us,—but how this thing of daring to tell the truth, of being open and above board, of giving value for value—how it does pay, what friends it makes for men and women, what a comfort it is throughout life, what a record it leaves behind after the end has come and the last period to the closing sentence of life's story has been set down. It pays big, this way of doing business does; it is the one right way, the one wise course to follow.

The matter of fraud in the poultry business is a tough one to handle—but not more so than any evil which needs reforming, not more so than wickedness of any sort. Reforming mankind is a work of centuries. God and the angels—not to speak of millions of good men and women—have been hard at work in this field a long time, and we who live today are aware how much there is yet to do. The trouble with you and me, neighbor, is that we are impatient. All of us in whose make-

up there exists the reformatory streak are in too big a hurry. We want before we die out, to spank the world single handed, put it to bed, tuck it in and make it be good. It is a vain wish. Seventy years, man's allotted time, quite a while to you and me, but looked at across the centuries, the centuries gone by and those to come—seventy years is hardly long enough to use for a second space on the clock of time.

The rogue's salvation lies largely in this fact that while virtue is its own reward, wickedness is inseparable from punishment. The dishonest man is a fool. He is a man who stands and beats himself in the face, who hamstring his own legs, who is his own worst enemy.

He plays a losing game to a dead certainty. He is like the burglar who defies social rule. The burglar has but one brain, but one pair of eyes, but one pair of legs. Society, on whom he would prey—what of her? She has in her service a million brains, a million pairs of eyes, a million pairs of legs. The thief may play in luck for a time, he may be extra cute, he may succeed in turning this corner or slipping into that alley, but sooner or later, as sure as time lasts, he will get slipped up on, and be made to hear the penalty of his misdeeds.

The poultry dealer or incubator manufacturer who does business on the basis that "there is a new crop of suckers every year," is unfit for business from a purely business standpoint, not to consider his acts further. Look back two, three, five or ten years, those of you who have been in the business that long, and count the names of the men who attempted to play the poultry public for suckers, and make a list in your mind of those who very soon fell by the wayside, who were found out in their meanness, and had their faces turned to the wall.

If a man courts success, if he cares for himself, for his future, for his peace of mind, for the respect of those dear to him, for the things in this life that are good and lasting, he will stick by principle as he is given to understand principle; he will be honest though it take the skin off. A man should so live that his funeral procession should be a mile long, rain or shine, and these words can in truth be pronounced above his last resting place:

"Here lies an honest man."

—Reliable Poultry Journal.

It is Practical.

For a thorough and practical poultry paper, FARM-POULTRY cannot be beaten.

Utica, Mich.

B. G.

You Never

—BOUGHT EGGS AT—
GROVE HILL POULTRY YARDS,

but your neighbor has. How do you like his birds?
See the difference. Consult ad. opp. title page.
Box 401, Waltham, Mass.

PRIZE WINNING BLUE BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

Have won more prizes in the last 3 years than any others in New Hampshire. Scored 93 and 92 in strongest competition in show room by Judges May, Atherton, Knapp, and I. K. Feldt. 20 birds with average score of 92 by Judge May. These birds were bred by me, and are now in my yards mated to produce prize-winners. Do you want eggs from such birds at \$2 for 15 from best birds only, and guaranteed fresh? Prompt attention given orders and correspondence.
F. E. COLBY, Bow Mills, N. H.

BUFF WYANDOTTES.

My Buffs have won in 1896, Madison Square Garden, New York—Feb'y 4 to 8, 1896—cock 2d; cockerels 2d and 4th; hens 2d and 3d; pullets 2d and 3d; breeding pen 2d. Troy, N. Y.,—Jan'y 24 to 28, 1896—cock 2d; hens 2d and 3d; pullets 1st, 3d, and 4th; cockerels 2d, 3d and 4th; breeding pen 1st. Silver cup special for best display. Eggs \$3 per sitting; 4 sittings for \$10.
C. S. MATTISON, So. Shaftsbury, Vt.

Single Comb White Leghorns

LARGE SIZE,
EXTRA LAYERS.

Winners at Madison Square Garden, N. Y. City, 1896—1st and 3rd cocks; 1st and 3rd cockerels; 1st and 3d hens; 1st pullet; 1st and 2d breeding yards. Stock and eggs bred and owned by
WHITING FARM, Holyoke, Mass.

NEW CATALOGUE FOR 1896!
Printed in colors that are correct. Best and finest illustrated Poultry Catalogue ever printed. Get it and be convinced. It tells how to make poultry pay, how to build poultry houses, gives remedies for diseases, also lowest prices of fowls and eggs. If interested in poultry, this book is what you want. Sent post paid for 35 cents.
The J. W. Miller Co., Box 174, Freeport, Ills.

F. C. ELDREDGE, BOURNE, MASS. Strictly Choice Stock

Eggs for hatching as follows: Light Brahmas, Barred Plymouth Rocks, White Wonders, Buff Leghorns, Black Minorcas, S. C. Brown Leghorns.
\$2 per 13; \$3.75 per 26; \$5 per 40.
Light Brahmas and Brown Leghorns crossed, \$1 per 13. Catalogue free.

The Wopowog Farm.

Eggs for hatching.
Full Feathered English BUFF COCHINS,
GOLDEN PENCILED HAMBURG,
LIGHT BRAHMAS,
WHITE LEGHORNS.
Breeding birds always for sale, low price. Send for circular.
T. C. CHAPMAN & SON, Stony Brook, N. Y.

LINCOLN'S Last Letter.

Exact fac-simile of the last historical epigram written by Abraham Lincoln. "Never before published." Souvenir copy for friends sent post paid, 10c. stamps. Write, S. H. SMITH, JR., Box 2600, New York City.

COMPLETE POULTRY PLANT FOR SALE.

On Account of Sickness; a rare chance indeed. Eight acres land, flat, gravelly soil, well fenced. One Dwelling-house, surrounded by beautiful maples; in splendid repair; newly clapboarded and painted; new kitchen built on last fall. One good size Barn, stable room for two cows and three horses. One Wagon-house built last fall. One Boiler and Engine house, 15 x 26, built last spring. One Grain-house. One Hen-house 15 x 65, 6 pens, built after Farm-Poultry plan 3 years ago. Three 10 x 15 Brooder-houses each containing two Radd's brooders. One 600-egg Monarch Incubator, bought last year. One Mann's No. 10 Bone-cutter, run by power. One new 5-h. p. Boiler, and one 3-h. p. Engine. The Farm is located 3 miles from Salem, N.Y., on the main road to Greenwich, N.Y. 200 berry bushes; 25 apple, 12 pear, 12 plum trees, were set out 3 years ago. Excellent water in kitchen and boiler-house. A splendid broiler trade is established. The Farm, Boiler, Engine, Incubator, Brooder and Bone-cutter will be sold at \$1500. Terms to suit purchaser. A fine lot of 125 Barred and White Wyand. B. pullets, and other stock also for sale.
Address: H. SPALLHOLZ, Salem, N.Y.

EGGS For Hatching. S. C. White Leghorns. Choice Stock for Sale.

Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$2 per 26. Catalogue free.
A. L. FAWCETT, New Albany, Pa.

Kindness in Feeding.

While much ridicule is cast on those farmers who allow their birds to weather the storms of winter in the tree tops, yet a greater loss prevails every year from too much food during the moderate seasons of the year. A flock soon begins to learn habits, and can be taught to come at a certain call, or to some particular place. A hen that has become familiar with a particular poultry house or roosting place cannot easily be induced to change quarters. Fowls are creatures of habit in the strictest sense, and when once they form a habit such as egg eating, feather pulling, or eating to excess, they will continue the fault as long as they have opportunities for so doing.

The farmer who begins to feed his flock at regular hours will find his hens at their posts on time always, and if he caters to their whims, by throwing down a little grain every time he goes where they are, he will soon discover that they will run to him whenever he appears, as if they had not been fed for a week. They will act as if always hungry, and this action will be construed by the farmer as something earnest, for he will give them more food because they have indicated that they desire it, while at the same time the habit is being more strongly entrenched, and the hens will cease searching for food, and wait for him to appear.

It is all kindness to do this on the part of the farmer, but his mistaken kindness is really an injury, for the hens will not attempt to scratch and exercise, and soon become excessively fat, and eggs will then be scarce. It is important to avoid making the hens fat if eggs are desired; and if they are to keep in good condition, they should have plenty of exercise and be really hungry when they demand food. Those who give their flocks good treatment also believe that the hens should have all their wants supplied, and they therefore provide a great variety of nearly everything the fowls will accept, especially if the birds are confined in yards and cannot be allowed outside, which method induces them to eat even more than they would if limited in variety; but as grain is more easily procured and fed than any other it is used lavishly, and the hens will become idle, indolent, sluggish, very fat and unprofitable. The point to observe is never to over-feed. Always have them rather hungry than to give too much. Never so feed as to have food left over, and keep in view the fact that when the hens are not laying they will then require less food, while in the summer season their wants are very few compared with winter.—*Poultry Keeper*.

A Rumored Failure.

The *New England Fancier* says editorially: "Rumors indicate the assignment of another prominent fancier in Massachusetts. This is one of the cases where he was 'soaked' from the start by an 'expert' buying his stock for him, foisting on him a lot of poor birds at enormous prices, together with a few birds that came high but were all right. Large amounts were put into buildings, etc., with the invariable result. 'There are others,' and the first indications come when they fail to pay advertising bills."

Doubtless there should be added to the above statement another element which is potent in causing failure—inexperience. Print it in capitals, INEXPERIENCE is one of the main causes of failure in the poultry business. A man, without experience in the management of fowls attempts to leap to the front at a single jump. The ditch of failure lies between him and success, and his untrained powers are just sufficient to land him in the middle of the ditch, to stick in the mud.

It will be a fortunate day for beginners when they learn that success in poultry keeping requires a preliminary training just as much as success in any other pursuit. One needs to serve his apprenticeship here as elsewhere. The man who begins small, carefully studies each step of the way, and enlarges his plant no faster than his capacity for managing enlarges, will succeed; but the man who "despises the day of small things," and expects to jump his apprenticeship, is foredoomed to failure. We may pity his misfortune, but we know that he alone is responsible for it.—*Reliable Poultry Journal*.

"Can I get some eggs from your folks, little boy?"

"Nope, 'm; our hens has gone dry."

Advertisers and Show Reports.

To the Editor of FARM-POULTRY:

The editorial in your valuable journal for March 1st, "As to Show Reports," has suggested one or two thoughts not directly touched upon.

It is true that a report of a show is largely free advertising. It is a very difficult matter to report anything fully and intelligently without giving notoriety to some individual. An attempt on the part of an editor or reporter to write up an occurrence, some mode of handling fowls, or an exhibition, without giving names and full details usually results in a garbled account that cannot be satisfactory to the reader, and only convinces the person who has been studiously kept in the background that the almighty dollar is the first and only factor in the conduct of that man's life. The readers of a poultry or other class journal have a right to expect fullest details. They pay for class information, and ought to have it.

On the other hand, if one will carefully check off the advertisers in FARM-POULTRY, great and small, he will find very few names missing that have earned a place as exhibitors of prize winners at a show. Your readers have no right to presume that the show report is the cause and the advertisement the effect. It is but fair to say that any person of sufficient discrimination to breed prize poultry, and enough public spirit to take it to a show, would advertise anything he had to sell in a journal so impartially and ably conducted.

Berkeley, Cal.

W. E. L.

The Essentials.

We believe a variety of food and exercise essential in keeping a flock in a vigorous and sprightly condition, but that wheat and oats should be the staple foods. Oats can be ground, mixed with a little bran or scrap and scalded, or the whole grain boiled, and it makes a feed for the morning that is relished and nourishing without putting on the objectionable fat. Add to this a few handfuls of wheat in a scratching shed and a little green food in the shape of a suspended cabbage, and we would not call it poor feeding, for oats in themselves are one of the most complete foods, not only for fowls but other stock.—*Midland Poultry Journal*.

Circulars Received.

J. W. MILLER, Hattou, Pa.
W. W. KULP, Pottstown, Pa.
W. A. POWELL, Shelbyville, Ind.
J. W. ANDREWS, Dighton, Mass.
GEO. L. BARTLETT, Easton, Md.
HAMPTON FARM, Alexandria, Va.
SCHWAB BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.
LEWIS C. BEATTY, Washington, N. J.
VICTOR E. CANEDAY, Taylor's Falls, Minn.
F. H. WOOD, Dryden, Tompkins Co., N. Y.
MIDLAKE POULTRY ASS'N, Haverhill, Mass.
ENGWOOD FARM, W. E. Snively, Hudson, Ill.

CARLISLE POULTRY YARDS, L. G. Andrus, Elyria, Ohio.

GAMBLETON POULTRY YARDS, C. E. Kelso, St. Louis, Mo.

LICE KILLING MACHINE, E. L. Mills Co., Ionia, Mich.

POULTRY SUPPLIES, Cooke & Russell, Waterbury, Conn.

NATICK POULTRY YARDS, I. K. Felch & Son, Natick, Mass.

RUSSELL'S POULTRY FARM, W. S. Russell, South Ottumwa, Iowa.

POULTRY AND POULTRY SUPPLIES, E. W. Amsden, Ormond, Fla.

HERMITAGE POULTRY FARM, A. G. Keyser, Lower Providence, Pa.

CHICKEN FIXINGS, No. 19, Richard B. Young, Westboro, Mass.

BOB WHITE POULTRY YARDS, C. W. Thomas, Roanoke, Va.

PINE TREE POULTRY FARM, G. A. C. Clarke, Le Mars, Iowa.

BLUE POINT POULTRY FARM, F. A. Homann, Effingham, Ill.

CRYSTAL SPRING POULTRY YARDS, C. S. Anglenyer, Leetonia, Ohio.

UNIVERSAL HATCHER AND BROODER, E. W. Andrews, Elmira, N. Y.

EVERGREEN POULTRY YARDS, Geo. Cartledge, New Britain, Conn.

NEMAH VALLEY POULTRY YARDS, Dr. A. Gaisler, Tecumseh, Neb.

PEACH HILL POULTRY FARM, R. J. Benham, Mgr., West Alexander, Pa.

Feltch On Advertising.

If you wish to be neglected and forgotten in poultry culture, just isolate yourself by not advertising. Your first advertisement may not bring you profit. There is only one way, then: to get zeal to raise a good thing, and then advertise it.

If advertisements do not pay, what induces men to have them appear in thousands of papers? There are men in poultry culture to-day who spend \$1,000 a year for advertising their stock, and the stock that is sold through them as sole agents. A sharp and live advertisement has as much influence upon our vital energies as does any other reading matter in a publication. It becomes of as much importance to you that your advertisements are catchy as that your fowls are as fine as your competitors', for both are inseparably linked together. Of what use to you as a means of support if you have one hundred of the finest fowls in the world if nobody knows it, if you have no guides out in the way of advertisements pointing to your yards that they may come and examine or reach you by letter?

Then read the advertisements, and from what you read coin something in the way of an advertisement that has stamped upon its face honest merit and a willingness to send goods worth the money you receive, and have about it all an individuality that will couple the advertisement with your name and town in the memory of the reader. Out of sight, out of mind. With your advertisement out of the papers you are surely out of mind—forgotten because of the crowd that is in, with whom the reader is in conversation each month; and they give the reader no time to think of you. You want to be in the crowd to be heard and seen with the rest.—*Inter-State Poultryman*.

Food and Color.

Chicks that are poorly nourished, when they should be growing, or fowls going through the moult, are almost sure to show defects in plumage. Besides a lack of richness or lustre, the color is likely to be unsound, showing white in black, buff and black reds. Proper housing and food has just as much to do with the plumage of a fowl as the coat of a horse; but, let us not forget, proper housing and nourishment means sometimes more than warmth and food. Fowls cannot be kept in a vigorous condition, even though given the best of food and their houses are warm, if their quarters are filthy, and infested with vermin. Food should not be entirely utilized in maintaining the animal heat of the fowl, nor in feasting swarms of vitality sapping lice.—*Midland Poultry Journal*.

Red Mite Remedy.

F. Willock, of Scranton, Pa., says he drives off the red mites by making a mixture of beef suet and kerosene, thick enough so it will not run. Turning the roosts upside down, they being square, he paints them with the preparation. Since he has done that he has not seen a red mite.

MARKET REVIEW.

Eggs.—Receipts continue liberal, but the demand is about equal to the supply, and stocks are not accumulating. As cold storage stocks are practically exhausted, latterly at a substantial loss to the owners, and as the supply and demand practically balance each other, there will be little fluctuation in prices until the withdrawing of many hens from production by the brooding season and the consumption of large quantities of eggs for incubation checks production, and prices will creep upward.

We quote: Fancy nearby, 16 to 18c; western, 11½ to 12c; ice house eggs, 8 to 10c; eastern fresh, 12 to 13c.

Poultry and Game.—Frozen poultry is particularly easy and dull. Fresh is only fairly active.

We quote: Western turkeys, 14 to 16c; New England chickens, 13 to 15c; western chickens, 10 to 12c; Philadelphia capons, 18 to 20c; New England fowls, 11 to 12c; western fowls, 9c; Geese 9 to 10c. Ducks 12 to 15c.

THE BEST

Is what I serve my customers. My

White Plym. Rocks

Won more prizes at New York, 1895 and 1896, than all others. The Judge pronounced my first prize pen at New York the "finest in America." They are noted for winners, and their eggs are for sale. See prices on back cover.

A. C. HAWKINS, Lancaster, Mass.



Here is something not only new but also something that completely fills the bill. **THE PRACTICAL POULTRY, CHICK AND PIGEON DRINKING FOUNTAIN**, made from galvanized sheet-iron. Directions.—Fill can up to square slots, place pan on top, so that wire across pan drops in slots, press pan down and turn it a little to the left, which secures pan firmly to the can. Turn upside down and you will find the pan filled to within half inch to the top, and remain so until all the water from the can is consumed. No spring attached to less than one gallon sizes. Notice some of the advantages. It can be thoroughly cleaned every time before filling. It prevents chicks from wading or falling in and drowning, and does not allow the old hen to tilt the dish or foul the water. Roosters' wattles cannot drop in the water to become wet and frozen. It does not compel chicks to wait on their turn, dozens can be served at the first table. The slant of pan prevents it from bursting by the frost. Always keeps water clean, fresh, and wholesome. Prices each.—2 gallon \$1.20, 1½ gallon \$1.00, 1 gallon \$0.80, ½ gallon \$0.60, 1 quart \$0.50. In half dozen lots or more, 20 per cent. discount. No circulars, but the practical article can be furnished promptly.

E. M. CHRIS, Manufacturer and Patentee, PINEGROVE, PA.

WHITE WYANDOTTES

Eggs for hatching, Knapp and Lambert strain; 13 for \$1.50; 26 for \$2.50. E. J. LeBARON, COURT END POULTRY YARDS, 13 E. Grove St., Middleboro, Mass.

"AS SURE AS EGGS"

Is eggs," my yards this year are bound to produce their proportion of prize winners for next season's shows. My Barred

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

are of the famous E. B. Thompson strain, and I have kept for my own use the pick of my entire hatch for 1895. One pullet, mating is headed by a cockerel from Thompson's yard, which produced the famous pullet "Music," winner of 1st at Madison Square Garden, 1896. Another by a cock none of whose exhibited chicks this season scored less than 94. One of my cockerel breeding pens is headed by a cockerel which I. K. Felch pronounced the finest barred bird in a hot class of 236. Another by his sire, never scored, but the best marked bird I ever saw; and a third by his grandsire, Old Granite State, No. 51, one of the best cockerel breeders that ever headed a yard. No case of roup or other contagious disease has ever appeared in my flock. They are perfectly healthy and hardy. My best testimonials are orders already booked from customers of previous years.

ECCS \$2 per sitting, straight. No discount for large orders.

E. E. MORGAN, PIKE STATION, N. H.

BLACK LANGSHANS.

Prize Winners at Boston, 1896; and Worcester, 1895 and 1896. Eggs for hatching, \$3 per sitting; two for \$5. A few choice Cockerels to spare.

Mrs. GEO. W. KNAPP, Hadwen Road, Worcester, Mass.

INCUBATOR EGGS

From large vigorous thoroughbred

BARRED

Plym'h Rocks.

Bred for prolific laying and market qualities.

\$6 per 100.

GROVE HILL POULTRY YARDS, Box 40, Waltham, Mass.

Silver and Golden Wyandottes.

Eggs \$3 per 13; \$5 per 26. Golden \$2 or \$3 for 20; 13 years a breeder of Silvers. At Boston's great show, Jan. '96, my Silvers won pen 1-1; hen 2d; pullet 3rd; cockerel W. H. C. 50 awards at Stoneham, Woburn, Northampton, Peabody, and Amesbury.

JOHN C. JODREY, Danvers, Mass.

Mr. Latham's New Poultry House.

We published detailed drawings and description of Mr. Latham's new poultry plant in F.-P. for January 15th, and have had requests for further information about it. We forwarded one or two of these requests to Mr. Latham, with a query as to the information desired, and have the following reply:—

Dear Mr. Hunter:—Your letter at hand several days ago, but have been too busy to write to you till now. I am very glad to have you tell FARM-POULTRY readers something more about my plant, for I have had a good many letters asking about it, and it has been quite a "chore" to answer them.

Foundation of the building is a mortar and stone wall, built up twelve inches from ground outside; floor is filled up to top of the wall with earth, (sandy loam), and the ground outside is graded up to about six inches of top of wall.

Sills of building are 2 x 4 inches, the middle sill (for wall between the four foot walk and the roosting rooms and scratching sheds) being laid on stones placed four or five feet apart. Studding is 5 ft. 8 inches long by 2 x 3, and 2 x 4 scantling, distance apart between the studding being governed by length of boarding, (some of them being very close together to take short boards). Plate over top of studding is 2 x 4 scantling.

Rafters 2 x 4, with a rise of two feet from height of plate to ridge pole, makes building six feet at eaves and eight feet at ridgepole. Rafters placed two feet apart between centres on the roosting rooms, and two and one-half feet between centres on the scratching sheds, this being done to bring rafters right for partitions between rooms, and between rooms and sheds.

I made the building in just these dimensions to have the roofing papers fit without cutting, for with the course of shingles at the eaves to get the water off the roof, I could lay the paper to the edge of the building and within seven inches of the butts of the shingles, get a good lap of two inches, lay two widths of paper to each side of roof, and cover top or ridgepole with one piece, which gave a good lap over papers on each side of roof.

By making euds of building with "mitred" roof I got the shingle eaves all around the building to carry off water at every point, with but little cost to expense of building.

In laying roofing boards, the rafters were marked where the line of nailing of the paper would come, and these spots were covered with a good wide board, so that when the paper was nailed down we did not find ourselves driving nails into a crack between boards.

When the sides of roosting rooms between them and scratching sheds and walk were built, the bottom board was set about five inches into the earth floor to keep the fowls where they belonged, as well as to keep dirt and litter from being scratched into the walk.

Many have asked me the cost of this building. I cannot say, for I do not know, as I used all or nearly all old lumber, a good part of it being short lengths, as I worked into it everything I could.

Any one can get pretty near to the cost of building this style of building, by making estimates on lumber, nails, mortar and stones, windows, Neponset roofing paper, Cabot's sheathing quilt, which costs for bale of 500 ft. \$4.50 for the single ply, and \$5.50 for the double ply, (I used the double). The waterproof paper which I used next to boarding, (P. & B. made by the Rubberoid Paper Co., New York), coming in rolls of 1000 feet, at \$3 per roll.

C. H. LATHAM.

Lancaster, Mass., March 12th.

Grit for Chicks.

By MR. HUNTER.

At a farmers' meeting in Ploughman Hall, Boston, a few weeks ago, there was an interesting exchange of experiences after the essay, and the subject of grit was brought up for discussion. One speaker said he had had much bowel trouble among his little chicks in past years, losing as many as forty to fifty per cent of those hatched in that way. Last year, however, he got hold of the idea that they needed grit, and went to a mill where broken crockery was crushed into grit for fowls and chicks. This grit was white, and attracted the chicks,

who picked at it a good deal, the result being that he lost very few chicks from bowel trouble.

There is a good deal of merit in that suggestion. Lack of grit is one of the most potent causes of bowel trouble in chicks, but it isn't the only one, hence we wouldn't say supply them with good sharp grit and you will have no bowel trouble, because too much heat or too little heat in the brooders will produce that trouble. On our farm we sprinkle, once a day, a small handful of chick-size mica crystal grit on one of the feeds of the little chicks, and stir it into the food, so that all the chicks get some of it. Since we have followed this plan we have had hardly a chick plastered up behind, and the deaths from bowel trouble have practically ceased. We think the plan of mixing a little grit with the food once a day is superior to leaving it before them where they have to find it themselves, and we strongly commend that plan to F.-P. readers.

Starting the Incubator.

As this is the season when incubators are run, a few points on how to operate them might interest the novice.

After getting an incubator, run it empty for a few days before putting in eggs; try and see if you can run it empty first, then, after you fully understand how to maintain an even temperature, it will be safe to put in half the capacity of eggs when the temperature is 102 with the thermometer lying on its side on the tray; remember the lamp has considerable to do with an even temperature; should the lamp burn too high a flame it will cause the machine to run irregular. It is not necessary to keep the regulator too active; have the lamp to burn slightly in excess of what is necessary to maintain the proper heat of the egg chamber—then, in the case of a fall of the temperature of the room in which the incubator is run, the excess will then be used. Should the room become warmer, the regulator will open the valve and let the heat escape, thus maintaining an even temperature unless the flame is turned extremely high, in which case there is no regulator made that will keep the heat down.

I have seen incubators opened with the lamp burning as high a flame as possible without smoking, and the regulator put to its extreme capacity with the heat gradually rising, the operator complaining that the regulator was worthless. What folly; is it any wonder that some people don't succeed with incubators? The first thing they do when they get an incubator is to set it up and light the lamp; then as soon as the heat is up, fill it with eggs; some put the eggs in as soon as they put the lamp in place. A man sent for me to come and tell him what was the matter with his incubator. He could not get the heat up above 90 degrees; he had got the incubator at 10 A. M., and it was 4 P. M. when I got to his place. He took me in and showed me the incubator; it was a 100-egg size. To my astonishment, I saw he had the machine full of eggs. The lamp was burning as high as it dare. The regulator was drawn as tight as it could get. I asked him when he put in the eggs. He said right away when the machine was set up.

I told him he should have run the machine empty for a few days before putting in the eggs. He seemed surprised at what I told him. Why, said he, the manufacturers claim their machines are self-regulating. "That is all very true," said I, "yet you must adjust the regulator to the proper degree of heat first; then if the lamp is properly cared for, the regulator will keep the heat right until the embryo chick or duck is about ten days old and begins to throw off heat caused by friction of the rapid pulsation going on inside of the eggs."

After this stage it is no longer a question of the temperature of the egg chamber; it is the eggs that you must look to, as the animal heat will increase daily after the tenth day; the greater the number of fertile eggs in the machine the more the heat will increase; in keeping with this you must gauge the heat to its proper point.

I have always had the best results by running at 102 the first week, and 103 for the rest of the hatch. Always keep the thermometer between two fertile eggs with the bulb touching both eggs just above the centre. These eggs should be examined daily. A dead embryo on the fourteenth day is two degrees

lower than a live one; and on the nineteenth day it is four degrees cooler. This should impress you with the importance of this matter. If you neglect these points you must expect to fail.—MCFETRIDGE, in *Western Poultry Journal*.

Selection of Varieties and Breeding Stock.

At this season of the year we have many visits and inquiries from persons who are contemplating entering the ranks of the poultry fanciers, and who wish to pick up all the points they can find laying around loose. We gladly furnish any information we possess to an honest inquirer—but alas, the weakness of human nature, after trying to impress upon their minds the almost vital point of selecting but one good variety, this same party will perhaps soon have a trio of one variety, a breeding pen of another, and maybe two or three sittings of eggs of as many kinds under way, to produce feathered life. The second year this beginner mates up five or six pens, of as many varieties, from his chickens, brothers and sisters, then advertises Mr. So and So stock, and expects to raise about ninety per cent of prize winners.

What is the result? The purchasers of the eggs will perhaps get fifty per cent hatched and reared, consisting of undersized, puny specimens of the breed they represent, not any first-class, vigorous chicks. He then pronounces the dealer a fraud, and perhaps the breed of no value.

The beginner, (new breeder), is also disappointed, having such poor success in producing any good birds, so many complaints from purchasers of eggs, and not having enough chicks in the fall of any one variety to make a respectable showing in his yards or at the fairs.

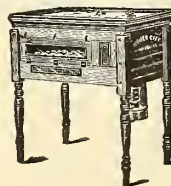
To avoid this condition, beginners, if going in for a profit, should choose a variety that will do fairly well under ordinary care, such as the Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks or Brahmas, or when eggs are particularly desired, if warm housing and better care is given, Minorcas or Leghorns might be selected. It will not do for one to be carried away with a particular fancy—as to form or fine feather, or the profits in the venture may prove visionary.

Almost any of the numberless varieties of the present day might be made profitable under certain conditions, with some dealers to handle them. But with an experience in breeding some twenty-five varieties, I think I can truthfully say to the average beginner, confine your selection of a breed to the American, Asiatic or Mediterranean classes, according to your wants and surroundings. Next buy your stock of an honest breeder, who has a reputation to sustain; use in your breeding pens none but fully matured, vigorous birds, not akin, give them proper care; and the coming fall you will have something in your yards you will feel proud of, and that will prove winners when shown at the winter exhibitions. Continue on this line, and after you have made your reputation with one variety, and have the room, and desire another breed, add them, and so on as long as you can give to each variety the attention and room to fully develop their best qualities. I think writers in our poultry journals fail to give the faults of their favorite breeds. In choosing a breed one could do it intelligently, if the undesirable as well as the desirable qualities were set forth. I do not blame the journals, but think if the facts were stated from actual experience with some varieties, it would save the hard earned wages of many beginners from being sunk from where they will never be resurrected.—*Poultry Tribune*.

S. C. BROWN LEGHORN,

Black Langshan and Minorca eggs, \$2 per 15; \$3 per 30. A few Min. pullets and Lang. cockerels left.

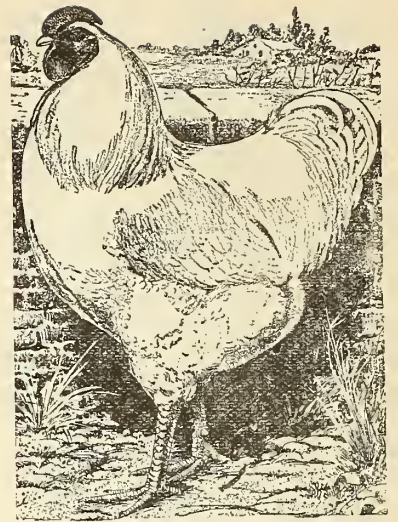
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RUST EGG PRODUCER, Etc.

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MASS.



EDITED BY THOMAS WRIGHT.

Signs That Are Certain.

In a batch of letters now before us we find one containing an imperfect feather, and the writer asks, "What is the cause and remedy?"

The cause is a lack of vitality in the young one to throw off the quill. The remedy is to remate the parents, or dispose of them entirely.

The youngster in whose tail that feather grew is not to blame for its condition, as not only are its tail feathers like sticks, but we don't doubt, the whole body is more or less imperfect and frail, and this feather is a sign that is certain. Seldom do we see similar feathers in an adult bird, as it is rarely a subject lives to shed the next feathers where such evidence of debility exists.

There are various signs of condition in plumage of pigeons, and not until we thoroughly acquaint ourselves with this fact, shall we be able to select such youngsters as will make vigorous breeders; but more often we shall keep what really should have been killed as squabs. Thus we are losing ground all the time; but if we consider carefully what we read, and watch for results, we can become familiar with many useful points in selecting our birds for breeding, and shall market those whose vigor is lacking, by certain signs we here enumerate. The rule applies to any and all varieties of pigeons, market or fancy, and is certain in both; and whenever going the rounds gathering squabs of a marketable age, or looking over the markings of a coop of toys, never for a moment retain a bird wearing an imperfect feather, no matter how beautiful the markings, color, or form.

If we scrape gently the quill toward the root of the feather and go too far it will bleed profusely. Some do, and the specimen sojourns here a while; but its life appears a burden.

We have heard people say upon seeing a pigeon or pigeons sitting in a heap, feathers ruffled, "They are cold;"—but not so; fifty below zero won't induce a pigeon to present such a pitiable posture or such a deserted look; and instead of being the effect of cold only, it is the result of debility in some form probably aided by cold. Plumage is the first evidence of that dreaded disease, going light; and to partly disrobe the patient of that plumage, though cruel in one sense, is humane in another, as it often strengthens the patient.

This inability to shed the quill often appears in the flights as well as the tail; and we have seen a youngster leave the nest when every one of the ten flight feathers appeared like so many skewers,—always unable to fly; finally, after the parent has ceased to feed and nourish it, we find it in a corner of the cote peacefully claiming a final rest.

Again, in attempting to aid an invalid of say six months old, we remove the tail feathers, and to our surprise draw among the entire lot one or two that are filled with a pulp more than half blood. We thought the bird was going light, but in trying to aid him in recovering by this tail drawing operation we have found the true cause of his debilitated condition. We should now kill him, as he has not stamina enough for a vigorous breeder.

All such signs and results as these should be consulted in connection with pigeons for breeding purposes: a vigorous bird is vigorous from the shell, and such only should ever be called breeders.

Questions and Answers.

Seeks Information.

Mr. Editor:—1st. Would it be practical to build a barn 25 x 40, 18 ft. posts, and use two floors for keeping pigeons?

2d. Is an aviary actually necessary?

3d. Which would be best, one large room, or three small ones on each floor?

4th. How long can pigeons be bred with profit without disposing of them?

5th. Are pigeons more liable to disease than poultry?

6th. Does FARM-POULTRY before Aug., '94, give any idea of coops?

7th. What suggestions can you offer to aid a beginner? W. F. W.

Shelton, Conn.

1st. Yes, but not as advisable as to invest the same money in cotes. A building say 100 x 15, 9 ft. high, is better in every way, unless you intend to use artificial heat.

2d. No; but all winged creatures should have means of exercise; and open air is invigorating.

3d. No pigeonry can be conducted on a profitable scale where extra large flocks are kept together.

4th. Fifteen years if remated occasionally, and separated from mate to build up vigor once in three seasons for six months.

5th. No.

6th. Yes; Feb'y, March, April and May, '92, numbers would be helpful.

7th. Too many to offer here. A few pairs of pigeons are what you need for practical lessons, after an insight as to care, etc., is gained through F. P.

Please Wait.

We are in receipt of no end of correspondence, and the pigeon holes in our desk are full. All we can do is appeal to those seeking advice to be patient; your turn will soon come.

He Believes.

Mr. Editor:—I believe that you know more about consolidating properties that make a good Homing pigeon, than all the rest of the advocates put together, and certainly my Homers have proved my statement. Many Homer fanciers here can't see any good points about a bird unless it is wattled up like a Bard; and no matter how well a bird may fly, unless it has lots of cere, as you call it, they say it is not a Homer, but a scrub. Where do Homers get it, and is it necessary upon general rules? W. W. P.

Shickshinny, Pa.

The wattle and cere develop with age in Homers that have a large infusion of either Antwerp or Dragon blood; but our experience has been that birds not overburdened with it were invariably fastest. Old timers who kept and flew birds when the wattled varieties predominated are apt to value this point in favor of the bird; but modern crossings such as the Cumulet, Smerle, and other Belgian birds that possess not only homing instincts but speed with it, have little or no cere; and certainly the Homer of today, that can do his five hundred and twenty miles in eleven or twelve hours, proves conclusively he is a better bird than the clumsy old go-as-you-please of twenty-five or fifty years ago. The cere is not an advantage, but an obstacle, as it interferes with the sight; and worse still, it denotes breeding of such varieties as are not the ideal Homer, or even possessors of any acute homing instinct or power. The medium sized keen bird is the bird for all round purposes in the homing family; and facts are what declare it, in this age of progression.

Just Suited Him.

Mr. Editor:—I picked up a copy of FARM-POULTRY, and I found it just suited me. As my pigeons do not seem to thrive, I ask your advice. I feed whole and cracked corn, wheat, and once in a while bread crumbs. Is this the proper feed? J. H. M.

Phila., Pa.

Your bill of fare should consist of small whole or sweet cracked corn, red wheat, Canada peas, hemp seed, and bread crumbs—hemp fed sparingly. Add also a piece of sulphate of iron to drinking water—a piece size of a walnut to every quart of water. Give an abundance of grit, Orr's or mica crystal, and keep in touch with the various experiences by subscribing for FARM-POULTRY.

Best on Earth.

Mr. Editor:—Your paper is the best on earth, and I would not be without it for five times the cost. Is an aviary necessary, or should I let pigeons out every day?

2d. Are Homers at two dollars per pair good enough for squabs?

3d. Does color have anything to do with price?

4th. Is Kafir corn as good for them as wheat?

5th. Do Homers stay at home when settled, or would they go to a flock of duffers I can buy for fifteen cents each? J. L. D.

Wenona, Ills.

Let them out if you can; the number you keep should decide this.

2d. Yes.

3d. No, except in show varieties.

4th. No; red wheat is better.

5th. Yes, if home is made attractive.

Which is Best?

Mr. Editor:—Please tell us how much feed per day thirty pigeons should consume.

2d. Do they breed best when confined, or at liberty? Willow, Mich. L. W.

Depends on variety you keep. Feed all they will eat up clean—six quarts, more or less.

2d. At liberty.

A Feather in Our Cap.

Mr. Editor:—FARM-POULTRY is the most helpful of any pigeon publication I have ever seen; and I have seen lots of them.

Lexington, Mass. S. C. B.

FOR SALE at once to close 75 pair Pouters, Turbills, Tumblers, Tipplers, Ovals, Homers and Yellow Pans. Good birds; guaranteed. Enclose stamp for reply. E. STREY, Austerdam, N. Y.

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HOMERS.

Mated for flying or Squab breeding, \$1 and \$2 pair. Books on Breeding and Training, 2c. Money in Squabs, 2c. (stamp). Leg bands, Pedigree blanks, Rubber stamps, Cheap pigeon books and papers, Cat. free. F. L. HOOPER, Station B, Baltimore, Md.

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DR. W. G. KENDALL, Atlantic, Mass.

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I have concluded to make the price of my eggs for this season at the very low rate of \$1 per sifting. My stock is from the very best breeders in this country, and has won many first prizes.

Buff Leghorns, (Solid Buff) Lister-Kay strain.
S. C. W. Leghorns, Knapp Bros. strain.
B. P. Rocks, Hawkins and Brown Egg strain.
W. P. Rocks, Taylor's strain.
Cornish L. Games, Sharp and Abbott strain.
Black Minorcas, W. Knapp's strain.
Imperial Pekin Ducks, Rankin's strain.

Mammoth Bronze Turkeys, DeKalb strain.
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Semi-Monthly.

PUBLISHED

The 1st and 15th of each month

BY

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A. F. HUNTER, }
M. K. BOYER, } Editors.

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EDITORIAL.

The Unsigned Letters.

In the March 1st number we said something about the unsigned letters, and tried to explain how useless they were, and our reasons for dropping them in the waste basket. Here, in one mail, we have two such, which have only halted on their way to the waste basket until we could use them in this "example."

One is from New Hampshire, is an attempt to reply to the article on "sending birds C. O. D.," Jan'y 1st F.-P., and is signed, "Live and Let Live." We will try once more to convince our N. H. friend that his communications are useless unless he signs his name. "Not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty of good faith." If he wanted "Live and Let Live" signed to the letter in print, well and good; that we would do provided his own name and address was signed in brackets below, but we cannot use his letter (nor any letter) unless we know who wrote it.

Here is another letter apparently written by a lady. What can we do with it?

Some time ago I wrote Mr. Hunter a letter of inquiry, and enclosed stamp for reply, but have seen nothing since.

I felt that he would be able to tell me what I wanted to know, owing to his long experience in the poultry business.

If he put the letter in the waste basket or answered in the F.-P., I have not seen it, as I do not take it.

I would be much obliged if he would write a personal reply right away as I am anxious to know, having waited too long. M. K. S.

We don't know who M. K. S. is, and she tells us with refreshing candor that she doesn't take FARM-POULTRY, hence will not see the reply to her letter, if printed.

Any one who will use a little common sense will see the uselessness of such letters. We must have the signature and address if we would make any use of them.

Farm-Poultry Led the Way.

Mr. A. F. Hunter, So. Natick, Mass.

Dear Sir:—I am under obligations to you for your kind treatment of the *Reliable Poultry Journal* in the columns of FARM-POULTRY. FARM-POULTRY is a pioneer, the mere existence of which makes it much easier for the *R. P. J.* to do business than would be the case if your paper had not "blazed the way." With best regards, I am, Yours truly,

GRANT M. CURTIS.

Quincy, Ill., March 14th.

[From a personal letter.]

The Friends of Score Card Judging.

In the light of recent developments the score card-comparison controversy is very interesting. We hear of a new chapter of decimal score-card friends being formed in one place, and in the next paper we take up we find such items as the following, clipped from the *American Fancier*:—

"I see by the *Colorado Poultry Journal* that the Colorado Poultry Association have withdrawn their support from the I. D. S. C. A., and for the future they will get into the 'big band wagon,' the American Poultry Association. The *Journal* after stating that the association, at their meeting, had withdrawn their support from the first mentioned organization, adds, 'of Mr. Felch, as a man and a judge, we have no fault to find further than to say that the scoring of 96 and 97 points by so many birds in the 1895 show, and the scarcity of 94 and 95 point birds in the 1896 show, which was admittedly a stronger show, is not productive of good to the Colorado breeders. We were harmed by the excessive high scores of 1895, and on the face of the show returns we show a deterioration in stock which is not justified by the appearance of the birds. High scoring as a bid for subsequent engagements, and low scoring as a means of revenge, are not methods to be connected with Mr. Felch's name, and we must attribute it to the better light of the show room this year.' From which it will be seen that even Mr. Felch cannot please every one. Last year our Colorado friends could not say too much in favor of this judge and his system of judging; but this year, oh my! As old 'Uncle Rastus' says, 'the world do move.'"

It would look as though our Colorado brethren had got their eyes open, just as Theo. Hewes did in Washington. We notice in his comments upon the Washington show, printed in the *Reliable Poultry Journal* for March, that he claims to have been a firm believer in and a constant advocate of the score-card, but his observations in Washington "made him tired," and he is now an advocate of comparison judging for all large shows. This seems to be the drift of public opinion generally, and the argument of the educational value of the score-card seems to have lost its force, if it ever had any. Scripture tells us, "A man's foes shall be they of his own household," and it looks as though the worst foes of the score-card, particularly of that fatuous movement, the I. D. S. C. A., were those of its own household, and that such ill-judged acts as the abortive attempt of the decimal people to control (or "awe") the Boston Poultry Association, and Mr. Felch's work in Colorado, have done more to injure the score-card than any other one thing. It is true the decimal people claim that the Boston meeting wasn't a decimal meeting (or movement), but the fact that the man who presided at the meeting was "director in chief" Felch, that the secretary of the meeting was the secretary of the Decimal Association, and that substantially all the people present were decimal men, discredits the claim.

"The world do move," as "Uncle Rastus" says, and the ultra claims of the score-card men, together with such illustrations as are mentioned above, throw light upon the score-card question, and are making converts to comparison judging on every hand. The score-card men may well exclaim, "Save me from my friends!" and they are surely finding that their worst foes are those of their own household.

We All Ate Turkey.

On the evening of March 6th the expressman landed a heavy box at our door, on opening which we found a handsome young tom-turkey of twenty pounds weight, and the following note.

Mr. A. F. Hunter—Dear Sir:—You well know the quality of our turkeys in the show room; and we want you to try their table qualities, also, so ship you today, by express, one of our turkeys hatched June 29th, 1895, with the compliments of E. M. & W. Ferguson.

Yours truly,

J. F. CRANGLE, Poultry Manager.
Fishers Island, N. Y., March 5th, 1896.

A twenty pound turkey for seven of us! We rose to the occasion, and summoned a brother's family to our assistance, so twelve dined off roast turkey that day; and that Fishers Island Farm turkeys are of the highest excellence, we unanimously voted. Cer-

tainly the writer never wielded a carving-knife over a better! One of the youngsters, more outspoken than the others, exactly voiced our sentiments when he said:—"Papa, don't you wish he'd do it again!"

Boston Poultry Association.

There will be a meeting of the Boston Poultry Association at the Parker House, Boston, at 2 P. M., on Wednesday, April 8th, which all fanciers and others interested in the holding of a second annual exhibition of poultry, pigeons and pet stock at Boston in 1897, are cordially invited to attend.

The grand success of our first exhibition, taken both from a financial standpoint and as one of the very largest and best displays ever attempted in this country, seems to me to demonstrate clearly that the Boston show should be made an annual fixture. If this is to be done I feel an exhibition of the importance ours has proved itself to be should be managed only on the very broadest and most liberal principles, and should invite competition from the best poultry yards and pigeon lofts in the world by the proper assurance of absolute impartiality and by engaging only specialty judges of acknowledged worth and integrity.

The practical department of our last show was a pronounced success, and we shall use every effort to make this department more and more useful and instructive with each show we hold.

My object in calling this meeting is to ascertain if fauciers are a unit in their desire of attempting to make the Boston show an annual fixture, for upon them depends its success or failure. I shall be pleased to entertain any and all pertinent suggestions, from exhibitors and other interested parties, that will tend to increase the value of our undertaking as regards either management, classification, rules, or anything whereby the Boston Poultry Association will be able to further the interests of the true fancier or practical poultryman.

All are welcome, and I hope to have a large gathering of those interested.

FRANCIS H. APPLETON,

Boston, March 21, 1896. President.

Are You With Us?

To all persons when their subscription to FARM-POULTRY expires we have lately been sending a circular advice same as the following:

Your subscription to FARM-POULTRY expired some time since. We have not yet had the pleasure of re-entering the same for the coming year. You know our custom is to discontinue sending the paper when the time is up. We know that many publishers do not do this, but continue to send the paper year after year; finally they try by duns, collection agencies, and threats of suit, to collect the amount for paper not ordered—upon the grounds that it has been taken from the post office. They do collect many such bills, to the annoyance of the subscriber, and make an enemy to their paper. Which way do you like best, our way, or their way? No doubt both have some advantages. By our way less enemies are made, and a party does not have to pay for a paper unless he wants it.

By the other way subscribers who have overlooked remitting promptly when their subscription ends are not deprived of their papers.

Again, if you want the paper, we believe when politely asked to renew, as we hereby ask you—you will at once write and say so—yes, or no, promptly. What do you think? Kindly let us know.

We enclose a renewal blank and addressed envelope for reply. You can send cash, money order or stamps. Price \$1.00 per year, semi-monthly.

* * * *

Some of the replies to the above are so unique and well put that we cannot refrain from calling attention to them here, because they so fully endorse our own firm conviction that a publisher has no more right to continue a subscription after the time for which it is paid ends, and ask the person to pay the bill rendered for same, than a merchant has to duplicate an invoice of goods to a customer without his order, and expect to collect for it.

Happy time (?) we think the merchant would have collecting the second bill.

New York, March 10, '96.

Gentlemen:—Thanking you for the kind notice that you have given me of the expiration of my subscription to your most valuable journal, I take pleasure in enclosing a postal order for one year's renewal.

As you allude to the "second way" of collecting a lapsed subscription, that is to say, where the subscription has not been renewed, it having expired, yet the publishers continue to send the publication as usual, expecting to collect by law later—I wish, on general principles, most respectfully to dissent. The subscription having expired, and the publishers having sent their journal for the period for which the money has been received by them, it seems to me that in law the contract ceases by its own limitations, and the subscriber has no more right to assume that he will receive more than he has paid for than that the publisher has a right to assume that the subscriber wants more than that for which he has asked and paid.

With the utmost good feeling, and wishing your highly esteemed journal the highest prosperity, I am, Most truly yours,

ALBERT E. C.

Gentlemen:—Your "Are you with us" circular is duly received. Your name for this instrument is capital. But will you please allow me to call it a reminder—for granted you do so, I'll call it a good one; yes, better still, of exquisite finish, carefully selected phraseology. I am more than pleased with "your way." It seems the most affectionate manner in which you can either retain or part with an old subscriber. If any one of us are half inclined to substitute another for FARM-POULTRY, the timely appearance of your red, white and blue is enough to counteract any such intention. To quote another phrase in your circular, "What do you think?" Well, one thought is this: F.-P. is indispensable in my family with the little poultry business we do from year to year. I have been favored with the use of it for nearly a year and a half, and although I am now on my feet in this branch of farming, I should feel exceedingly sorry to have my best foot knocked from under me. We all obtain very valuable instruction from the journal, and are not so selfish as to allow this opportunity to pass without extending to you our full appreciation of the many excellent qualities found in the publication.

Now, gentlemen, allow me to say that I renewed my subscription with your agent in this town, for which I hold his receipt, dated 31st Dec., '95. Should this explanation prove unsatisfactory I will do all which may appear proper for me in a speedy correction of the evident slight error; and in the meantime allow me to offer my many thanks for your very pleasing methods; and to the end of our business relations I remain

Sincerely yours,

H. G. L.

Charlton Depot, Mass., March 7, '96.

March 17, 1896.

I. S. Johnson & Co.—Gentlemen:—Your circular inviting us to renew our subscription is at hand. It contains three plain questions which we will answer:

1st. "Are you with us?"

Answer: Yes, gentlemen, we are with you—we regard FARM-POULTRY as the sheet-anchor of poultrydom.

2d. "Which way do you like best, our way or their way?"

Answer: Your way. If a paper is not to our liking, we do not wish to be obliged to thump the fact into a publisher's head with a maul, in order to have him stop it.

3d. "What do you think?"

Answer: Well, we think you are all right. We want the paper for 1896, and are going to have it; indeed we have had the numbers for January and February, having sent twenty cents for them; but we are going to move in a few days, are buying an incubator, etc., and in fact, haven't the dollar to spare just at present—but you will hear from us before we get through wanting it. Very truly yours,

ELMIRA, N. Y. COLE & JENNINGS.

* * * *

N. B.—After a perusal of the above we trust all subscribers to FARM-POULTRY will understand why they do not get FARM-POULTRY after the time when their subscription ends. Also, that they will observe when FARM-POULTRY comes to them in a green wrapper—for that means your subscription ends with that issue of the paper. We should be pleased to receive from every subscriber to F.-P. who is interested, their opinion of which way is best—our way or the other way.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Any of the numbers of FARM-POULTRY referred to below, will be supplied at the rate of five cents each.]

HEAVY LAYERS.—(W. G., Mass.): Leghorns, Minorcas, Spanish and Andalusians are all heavy layers.

WYANDOTTES AS LAYERS.—(J. D. M., New Jersey): The White Wyandottes are very good layers.

SMALLEST ASIATIC EGG.—(A. B., Calif.): The Cochins lay the smallest egg of the Asiatics.

BONE CUTTER.—(G. E. McC., Minn.): Get a small sized bone cutter for a small flock.

NESTS FOR SITTERS.—(H. S. M., Indiana): Common soap boxes make excellent nests for sitting hens.

BEST LAYERS.—(J. D. M., New Jersey): The Single Comb Brown Leghorns are considered the heaviest layers.

LANGSHAN EGGS.—(A. B., Calif.): The size of the Langshan egg is about like that of the Plymouth Rock.

MASH.—(H. S. M., Indiana): Mash is ground grain, scalded, to which vegetables, table scraps, etc., can be added.

LANGSHANS.—(A. B., Calif.): Langshans are better layers than the Brahmas. They are white skinned, while the Brahma is yellow.

SCRATCHING SHED HOUSE.—(H. S. M., Indiana): The May 1st issue of FARM-POULTRY gives plans for a scratching shed house.

DARK EGG BREED.—(G. L. J., Vermont): The Plymouth Rock is probably the best breed we have for the production of dark eggs.

LARD SCRAPS.—(B. G., Mich.): Lard scraps are excellent, but we would rather feed green cut bone, or green bone boiled and then cut.

SNOW.—(G. L. J., Vermont): When hens are allowed to run on snow they are apt to become chilled, which will check egg production.

FROST IN HOUSE.—(H. B. O., Canada): Lathing and plastering the house, leaving an air space, should prevent frost from standing on the walls.

FERTILE EGGS.—(H. R. P., New York): The eggs of a pullet should become fertile after she has laid for two or three weeks.

BOOK FOR BEGINNERS.—(G. E. McC., Minn.): "Profitable Poultry Farming" is the best book for the beginner. We will send it for twenty-five cents.

GREEN BONE BEST.—(G. J. C., Ohio): Green (raw) bones cut up in a bone milk, would be better than calcined bone for laying hens.

SCALY LEGS.—(A. B., Calif.): If the scurvy on the legs is allowed to grow the fowl loses power of its limbs, becomes weak, and dies.

INCUBATOR PLANS.—(B. C. H., Indiana): Plans for making hot water incubators can be secured by sending ten cents to P. H. Jacobs, Haumonton, N. J.

BROODERS NEEDED.—(C. B. B., Mass.): For every 200-egg incubator that will be run regularly, twice the amount of chick space in the brooders must be allowed, for broiler raising.

BEST TABLE FOWLS.—(J. D. M., New Jersey): The Dorkings are probably the best table fowl; and the Houdans, Langshans, Brahmas, and our American breeds, come next.

RYE.—(S. E. B., Wis.): Rye is the poorest grain we have for poultry feeding. It can be fed by way of variety if desired. Should never feed it to chicks.

PALE YOLKS.—(C. F. D., West Va.): The cause of pale yolks in eggs is a lack of proper green food. See February 1st issue. This paleness of yolk has nothing to do with poor hatches.

COCHINS AND BRAHMAS.—(A. B., Calif.): There is not much difference in the practical qualities of the Partridge Cochins and the Light Brahma. If one is a little better than the other, it must be the Brahma.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.—(M. P. T., Mass.): Hens' eggs should not be kept longer than three weeks. The fresher they are, the better

they will hatch. Keep them standing on ends in bran or other light material (or in an egg crate) and turn every day or two.

Something Wrong Here.

Mr. Editor:—What could you let me have six or eight Light Brahma pullets or year old hens for? I had ten Banded P. Rock pullets of you in November; they have laid well. Two of them are sick now, one having a pale comb, and the other has a very red comb, but a rattling in the throat. I think it is roup. I have always had that trouble. I began about six years ago with a dozen hens. I keep one hundred and fifty to two hundred now, but I don't get them to laying early, and I want to get some of your early laying Brahmas. I have kept mostly Brahmas, but have got more P. Rocks this year; they hatch better in my incubators. I have eight incubators that I made myself, 150 eggs each. I have set about one thousand eggs this month and last; have two hundred and fifty chicks now. Last hatched eighty-nine chicks from one hundred and sixty eggs. Am getting sixty to seventy eggs a day now, from one hundred and ninety hens. Only got thirty-four dozen in November, seventy-four December, one hundred and four January.

My hen houses are forty-eight ft. long, four pens ten and twelve ft. wide. I keep thirty or forty in the barn, about eighty in my 12 x 48 house, and sixty or seventy in the 10 x 48. I don't make more than a dollar on a hen, but hope to do better this year. Shall put all my time into the business. I sell my early chicks at the beach in July and August, at twenty to thirty cents a pound. Could I do better in Boston? I thought some of sending them there, either as broilers or roasters, but I am not acquainted with the market, and don't know much about dry-pickling.

My brooder house is 10 x 50 feet, pens 5 x 8 feet, walk two feet, from which I put the lamps under the brooders. Hope to pipe it for hot water sometime. I hope to put sixty ft. onto my biggest hen house this year, so as to keep two hundred hens in the two houses. If I only had money to work with I could make a good living in poultry. The yard of the small house is in the orchard, so the hens can't get any grass only when I let them run out; but they have the leaves of the trees to pick if they want to.

—N. H.

There is certainly something wrong in your methods if you can't get the pullets to laying early, and get only a very meagre egg yield after they do begin to lay, and have regular outbreaks of roup; no wonder you can't make over a dollar a year on a hen. The wonder is that you can make that!

You tell us absolutely nothing about your methods, so we are wholly in the dark; but we hazard the guess that you put your one hundred and fifty to two hundred hens into quarters about sufficient for half that number; that the quarters are filthy and noxious (offensive) with the accumulations of years; that your birds (and buildings) are lousy; that your food ration is ill-balanced, insufficient; in fact that you have "left undone many things which you ought to have done, and done many things which you ought not to have done, and there is no health in (your fowls.)" How much of this "guess" is correct? Are not your poultry houses built right down on the ground, so that the ground inside is actually lower than that outside, after the birds have "wallowed" in it and scratched it over one season? That is the usual way, and that way is certain to make damp floors, which is equally certain to lower the vitality and beget roup. The preventive of this state of things is to have your house sills a foot above the normal ground level, fill up inside to sill level with sand or gravel, and slope the ground outside to about the same level. Then if four or five inches of the surface gravel or sand is carted out of the pens each summer, and an equal amount of fresh gravel or sand put in, it is "brand new" so far as the floor is concerned each year, if the whole house and everything in it is thoroughly whitewashed once a year, that is freshened; and the balance consists in daily (or at the most every other day) cleaning off of the roost platforms and scattering an absorbent, land plaster (gypsum) or dry loam upon the platforms, to keep them clean and fresh. Once a month a kerosene bath for the roost poles, and fresh nest material for the nest boxes would bring the houses and fixtures "up to concert pitch."

Are the yards sodden and filthy with the accumulated droppings of years, until they are positively repulsive to the fowls? That is the usual condition on places such as we "guess" yours is. You should plow up (or spade up) those yards twice a year, sowing oats or rye on the freshly turned earth. The plowing (or spading) turns under the surface, which is trampled full of droppings, incorporates the droppings with the soil, and the oats or rye changes them into an excellent green food in a short time.

It is useless for you to buy "early laying" Brahmas, or any other improved stock, until

you correct your methods. We would rather not sell you good stock; it seems like "cruelty to animals" to subject them to such treatment as you have probably given those we sold you last fall. It is certain that the best laying stock in the world would quickly retrograde under such conditions. In your situation, with the advantage of an excellent summer market for chickens and eggs, at good prices if you produce a good article, you can easily make five dollars a year profit on every hen you keep; and we earnestly advise you to improve your methods with what you have got, before you increase your buildings and stock.

Get your birds to laying before winter comes upon them, then keep them laying, and you'll have eggs to sell when the city markets are eagerly calling for them, at forty cents a dozen. When the prices begin to fall rapidly begin hatching chickens for the spring and summer trade, marketing your product in the cities while spring chickens are in active demand, and then selling to the beaches when prices are off, and you'll find an astonishing difference in your profit account.

Believe me, dear sir, it is easier for you to make \$500 profit from one hundred hens (and raising five hundred or six hundred chickens) than make it from five hundred hens by your present methods—and an intelligent study of the pages of FARM-POULTRY will tell you how to do it.—H.

Fighting Lice.

Mr. Editor:—What is the best thing to use on hens, and in the house for lice? G. E. McC., Zumbrota, Minn.

Dust the hens thoroughly with a reliable insect powder, and strew some of the powder in the nests every now and then. Once a week pour kerosene over the roosts; and every spring and fall whitewash the inside of the house with a lime wash to which is added an ounce of carbolic acid to every pail. Regularly, once a month, turn the fowls out doors, close up the house tightly, and burn a pound of sulphur in each pen. After having set a match to the paper holding the sulphur, get out of the building as quickly as possible. Let the sulphur burn for an hour or so, then throw open the windows and doors. By following out this plan the entire year, there will be no further trouble with these miserable pests. We know, for we have tried it.

Looseness of Bowels in Chicks.

Mr. Editor:—When my little chicks are about three weeks old, I lose about half of them with a slight looseness of the bowels. I feed cooked egg, corn bread, wheat, scalded sweet milk and clear water. They are free from lice. Mrs. L. A., Nevada, Mo.

The looseness of the bowels, may, in a measure, be due to catching cold; but we are inclined to think that it is caused by feeding boiled eggs. This, we know, will cause bowel troubles, while raw egg, mixed in the soft food will correct a looseness of the bowels.

Chicks Become Lame.

Mr. Editor:—What is the cause for my chicks going lame? I have had them so lame they could hardly stand. Do you think that lack of exercise is the cause for it? W. G., No. Wilbraham, Mass.

Probably the chicks have leg weakness, caused by being too heavily fed on meat, etc. The bodies are grown too weighty for the muscular strength of the legs. Lack of exercise has much to do with this.

Chicks Puff Up.

Mr. Editor:—Sometimes I have little chicks swell up until they look like bladders, and they die. What is a remedy? Mrs. L. A., Nevada, Mo.

Where the skin puffs up like a bladder, the best remedy is to puncture through the skin with a needle to let the air out. Keep the bird in a warm place, and add one grain of citrate of iron and quinine to each two ounces of drinking water.

Crossing for Eggs and Meat.

Mr. Editor:—What cross would make the best egg and market fowl combined,—and would you advise such a cross? W. G., No. Wilbraham, Mass.

Where there is no prejudice to color of the skin of poultry in the market, we would prefer the Black Minorca crossed on Black Langshan hens. Where a yellow skin is wanted, White Wyandotte crossed on Light Brahma would be better.

Preserving Eggs.

Mr. Editor: I wish you would give me the best possible recipe for keeping or pickling eggs. This is a hot country, but I have a good cellar. Can you give me Mr. Geo. E. Howland's method? I notice in an article in Dec. 1st F.-P., that he pickles a great many eggs, using the lime-water process, with an improvement on some, by which his eggs are kept long and fresh. R. J. M., Alamo, Calif.

"Preserving Eggs" was very fully covered in F.-P. for May, 1891. Send five cents for that number. *The lime method* is the one you refer to, and is the one Mr. Howland employs. So far as the improvement upon that method is concerned, we are of the opinion that it consists in having the eggs perfectly fresh when put in the lime-water. Mr. Howland uses only eggs that he produces on his own farm, hence *knows* that they are fresh, as he puts in pickle each morning those gathered the day before. He said if he bought eggs of the neighbors he couldn't be certain that they were fresh. With that precaution we think the lime-method will keep the eggs perfectly.

Mr. Howland's address is Fairhaven, Mass. He may be willing to sell you his secret for a consideration. He does not, however, keep his eggs for a long time; but sells in the fall and early winter all those he put down in the spring preceding. In case a barrel was overlooked, or wasn't wanted, no doubt the eggs would keep perfectly for a year, or for several years.

Minorcas vs. Wyandottes.

Mr. Editor:—Can you tell me which breed has the best laying record, the Black Minorcas or White Wyandottes—and what is the record of the Black Minorcas? V. G. K., Lakewood, New Jersey.

The Black Minorcas are heavier layers than the Wyandottes; but the latter we should class as better winter egg producers. The Black Minorca record is known to have gotten as high as two hundred eggs in a year.

Light Brahmas the Best.

Mr. Editor:—Which do you consider the best fowls of the Light Brahmas, Partridge Cochins and Buff Cochins? W. J. A., Tallapoosa, Ga.

You have named them in about the regular order. The Light Brahmas, with good care, will give the most satisfactory returns, and the Partridge Cochins come next.

The Best. The Rest. The Test.

There are two kinds of sarsaparilla: **The best—and the rest.**

The trouble is they look alike. And when the rest dress like the best who's to tell them apart? Well, "the tree is known by its fruit." That's an old test and a safe one. And the taller the tree the deeper the root. That's another test. What's the root,—the record of these sarsaparillas? The one with the deepest root is Ayer's. The one with the richest fruit: that, too, is Ayer's. Ayer's Sarsaparilla has a record of half a century of cures; a record of many medals and awards—culminating in the medal of the Chicago World's Fair, which, admitting Ayer's Sarsaparilla as the best—shut its doors against the rest. That was greater honor than the medal, to be the only Sarsaparilla admitted as an exhibit at the World's Fair. If you want to get the best sarsaparilla of your druggist, here's an infallible rule: Ask for the best and you'll get Ayer's. Ask for Ayer's and you'll get the best.

The Food Question.

Mr. Editor:—I have thirteen Leghorns and a half-dozen Light Brahma hens. About how much grain should I feed each day to each lot? I am feeding warm bran in the morning, all they will eat. For noon I give oats, and for supper all the oats they will eat *hot*, as I cook the oats for the night feed. How much middlings should I feed, and in what proportion?
Tallapoosa, Ga. W. J. A.

We should give a morning mash of two parts bran to one part middlings. Of this a pint to ten or twelve fowls as their breakfast. At noon give a pint of oats or wheat, to twelve fowls scattered among a lot of litter so they will scratch and exercise. At night give a quart of oats or wheat to twelve fowls. Keep grit, cracked oyster shells, and cabbage or other green food constantly before them. Two or three times a week let them have some meat scraps.

Minorca-Langshan Cross.

Mr. Editor:—I notice in the November, 1895, issue of FARM-POULTRY, an article on the Minorca-Langshan cross as layers. Would you kindly state what color the eggs from that cross would be? Also, will they be as large as Minorcas?
Toronto, Canada. J. B. S.

The eggs from the Minorca-Langshan cross would be a light brown, as a rule, though some would be white. They will not quite average in size with those of the purebred Minorca.

Cracklings vs. Beef Scraps.

Mr. Editor:—Are cracklings, after the lard is pressed out, good for laying ducks and chickens? Also, is it good to feed to growing ducklings in place of beef scraps?
Woodbury, N. J. H. L. P.

Cracklings are excellent for hens; but we would rather feed beef scraps to laying ducks and ducklings.

Dorking-Light Brahmas.

Mr. Editor:—Does the Dorking-Light Brahma cross make good layers?
Toronto, Canada. J. B. S.

The Dorking-Light Brahma cross would be better for table fowls than egg production. In laying qualities they would be no better than either of the named breeds in their purity.

Feeding Chicks With Hens.

Mr. Editor:—What is the best feed for chicks just hatched by hens?
Lakewood, N. J. V. G. K.

The junior editor's plan has always been to give the hens whole wheat and the chicks cracked wheat and rolled oats. As they grow older, alternate cracked corn with the wheat, and give a mash in the morning composed of equal parts of bran, ground oats, corn meal, mixed, to which add a little animal meal, and once a week a small quantity of Sheridan's Condition Powder.

The above bill of fare is intended for chicks that have a free range with the hen. When both the hen and chicks are confined, there would have to be some changes in this menu.

Wyandottes vs. Plymouth Rocks.

Mr. Editor:—Which of the two breeds—White Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks—is the best for eggs; which best for broilers; and which is the best all-round fowl?
Allenton, R. I. C. C. G.

For egg production it is probably a neck-to-neck race, although the junior editor one year made a test with these two breeds, and found the Wyandottes ahead. But one test can hardly be given as a conclusion. For broilers, the Wyandottes are ahead. They have a better breast, are more plump, grow quicker, and have a richer golden skin. For an all-round fowl, especially on a farm where only one breed is kept, and where the fowls have good range, there is no breed that will prove more satisfactory than the Plymouth Rocks.

Making the Shells Hard.

Mr. Editor:—Can you tell me what to give hens to make the shell of their eggs hard?
Brooklyn, N. Y. A. P.

When hens are too fat they will often lay soft shelled eggs, and it might be best to first ascertain their condition. If fat, change the feed, removing all that is of a fattening nature, and get the fowls down to good exercising. If they are not fat, then it shows a lack of lime. Keep a liberal supply of cracked oyster shells constantly before the hens, so they can help themselves at will; also feed wheat—no corn.

Broody Pullets.

Mr. Editor:—How many eggs would a Plymouth Rock pullet lay before wanting to sit? Also, how many would a Brown Leghorn?
Vicksburg, Mich. M. B.

It is a hard question to answer. Some pullets will become broody after laying a dozen or two of eggs, and again others will keep on laying until the latter part of summer before becoming broody. Much depends upon the condition and the breeding of the birds.

Leghorns belong to the non-sitting class, and yet we did once own a White Leghorn pullet that hatched and reared a family of chicks. Ordinarily, however, Leghorn pullets do not become broody, but it is nothing uncommon to occasionally have a hen of that breed inclined to sit.

Feeding a Small Flock.

Mr. Editor:—I live in town and have seven Plymouth Rock hens and a rooster. I have a good hen house and a yard about 15 x 30 feet. The fowls get out about every two or three days. Now I would like to know what to feed, and what to provide for scratching material.
Bloomington, Ills. F. P.

A good plan would be to feed a pint of mash in the morning, composed of bran, corn meal and ground oats, to which, twice a week, add a half pint of meat scraps (unless you add the table scraps each day to the mash), and once or twice a week add a little of Sheridan's Condition Powder to the soft food. At noon throw a pint of wheat among a lot of leaves, chaff, or any light material so the fowls will have to scratch for what they get; and in the evening give a quart of wheat, alternated with oats. Keep a head of cabbage hanging in the hen house, when you have no other green food, and have cracked oyster shells, grit and fresh water always within reach, so the fowls can help themselves at will.

Food for Little Chicks.

Mr. Editor:—What is the best food for the little chicks when they come from the incubator?
Warren, Pa. G. W. X.

A plain yet excellent method is to first give rolled oats alternated with canary seed. Then gradually wean over, as they grow, to cracked wheat; then whole wheat; then cracked corn. The book, "Profitable Poultry Farming," gives a good method by R. G. White, a prominent broiler raiser, of New Jersey. We will send the book for twenty-five cents.

Green vs. Cooked Bone.

Mr. Editor:—Are bones as good after they are cooked as before for feeding to fowls? What price, per pound, would be reasonable for bones from the butcher shop?
Rome, Ind. A. B. L.

Green cut bone is generally considered best, but we have had reports of cases where worms resulted from feeding bone raw. Quite a number of poultrymen are now holling the bones and then grinding them, claiming that they cut more easily, and that there is less risk in feeding them. One cent a pound is not too much to pay for green bone, and as a lot of meat clings to the bone, it is good economy to buy it.

A Table Cross.

Mr. Editor:—Would a cross of Black Langshan on Buff Cochins be a good one for eggs?
Waltham, Mass. E. D. V.

The cross would be better adapted to table qualities than eggs; in the latter case the yield would hardly be any better than what the Langshans in their purity would give.

Breeding from Pullets.

Mr. Editor:—I have five Buff Wyandottes, hatched on the third of last July. They began laying in December, and laid fifty-four eggs from January 9th to 27th. They weigh five and a half pounds each. Will they do to breed from this spring?
Shaker Station, Conn. W. G. R.

They should be old enough to breed from by April, provided they are well developed.

Scratching Shed for Two Flocks.

Mr. Editor:—I have two hen houses, 8 x 12 feet, and am thinking of making a scratching shed, 10 x 12 feet, between the two. Would it answer for me to let one pen have the shed one day, and the other pen the next; and keep only twelve hens in each pen?
Windsor, Vt. J. W. McC.

That plan would work all right, provided you kept the roosting pens also littered on the floor, so that the day the pen was enclosed it would not be deprived of exercise.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SMALL ADVERTISERS.

Very many FARM-POULTRY readers have just as good stock as the majority exhibited at the large shows this winter. They can just as well sell eggs for hatching at a good price, say \$1 to \$2 per sitting, as other breeders.

To encourage such we will for a limited time insert in FARM-POULTRY Four line classified ads. (if ordered to appear six times) for \$5 for the whole 24 lines, cash with the order. The regular price for such space would be \$7.20.

You can get about 30 words, counting address, into a four line ad.

Make a beginning now. Many of our large advertisers commenced small, but do not now hesitate to use one, two or more inches every issue. Get our readers familiar with your name and stock by advertising this spring, and thus add to the profits of your poultry business.

Send copy and cash with order to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO.,

22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

BREEDERS AND MARKETMEN.

OUR REQUESTS:—We make two requests of our Subscribers. One is when writing our Advertising patrons always mention FARM-POULTRY. Another is if you ask them questions, always inclose a stamp. If you observe both of these requests it will benefit you amazingly. It shows that you mean business. Remember "Molasses will catch more flies than vinegar," and those who observe it are served first.

A BAD WICK is worse than none. Use only the Sunlight Carbon, 10 cents for sample. S. G. Robinson, printer F. P., 29 Purchase St., Boston.

A BARGAIN. Lt. Brahmas, W. Leghorns, none better. Eggs \$1.50. C. B. Travis, Brighton, Mass.

A CATALOGUE FREE. 20 varieties pure bred poultry. P. Rocks, Leghorns, Wyand., Brah's, Langshans, Andalusians and other variety. Buff eggs \$1.50 per 13; others \$1. 6 Buff breeds; 200 prizes won in '95. Davis Bros., Box 12, Washington, N. J.

A CHOICE STOCK of Barred P. Rocks, Bright, Lambert and other strains. Eggs \$2 and \$4 per 30. Half-price for B. Write. Geo. A. Chapin, Hampden, Mass.

A DOLLAR A SITTING. Eggs from choice Lt. Brahmas, Blk Langshans, Buff Cochins and Wt. Ws. Warranted fresh and fertile; same hens I breed from. E. S. Creamer, Methuen, Mass.

A FEW EXTRACTS after receiving stock of F. S. Tenney, Box 5, Peterboro, N. H. A. J. Kennedy, Foxboro, Mass.—The cockerel received and well pleased. Mrs. Throop, Lebanon, Conn.—Received the pullets all in good shape, and I am much pleased. L. C. Treadwell, Zora, Mass.—Received the Buff Wyandotte hens, am well satisfied. C. H. B. Chapin, So. Framingham, Mass.—Received the 2 Buff Wyandotte pullets, and am very much pleased. I breed Golden and Buff Wyandottes and White Wonders. Some more stock. Eggs \$1 and \$2 a sitting. Circulars.

A FEW SITTINGS OF EGGS to spare from my White P. Rocks at \$1 per 13. G. A. Marsh, Methuen, Mass.

A! A! A! A! few S. C. Br. Leghorn cock's, pullets, hens, \$1 each. B. P. Rock cock's, strong and vigorous, \$1 each. L. B. Brahma cockerels, \$1.50 to \$2 each, 8 to 10 lbs. Prices less than value to close. N. P. Brown, Westboro, Mass.

AFTER TRADE, your trade. W. Leghorns and W. Wyandottes, Knapp strain, at \$1 per sit. Also S. C. Br. Legh'n and Bar. Ply. Rocks at same price. Featherstock Farm, East Patchogue, Suff. Co., N. Y.

A. P. ALLEN, Meadville, Pa., Silver Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Barred P. Rocks, White Cochins; S. C. White Leghorns, R. C. Brown Leghorns, Silver Spangled Hamburgs, Pekin Ducks. All eggs \$1 per 13; \$2.50 per 40. Bronze Turkey eggs \$1 per 9. Send for circular. Order direct from this and eggs will be sent promptly.

A. P. ALLEN, Meadville, Pa., Lt. Brahmas, Silver Wyandottes, Wt. Cochins, S. S. Hamburgs, Bronze Turkeys. Will spare few more S. C. W. Legh's and R. C. B. Legh's in pens of 4 hens, 1 ckt. \$6.50 pen. B. P. Rocks \$7.50 pen, and P. K. Ducks.

AM. DOMINIQUE'S, W. Wyd't, B. P. Rock and R. C. W. Leg. Cir. J. B. Avery, Stillville, N. Y.

AMERICAN AND ENGLISH B. Cochins, I. Games and R. Caps. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$3 per 26. F. Sherwood, Suffern, N. Y.

AMERICAN White Wonders, W. F. B. Spanish, S. C. B. and R. C. W. Leghorns, G. Wyandottes, Pekin Ducks and Pearl Guinea. Pure eggs \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. Standard bred stock at all times. Stamp for reply. L. A. Thompson, Winnebague, Me.

A 1 B. PLY. ROCKS, Blk Minorcas, Brown and W. S. C. Leghorns, S. S. Hamburgs, \$1 per 13. Evan R. Williams, Canobie Lake, N. H.

APRIL is the month for best results. Fassett's B. P. Rocks are hatching finely. Eggs from those pullets that won at Malden and Stonham, \$2 per 13; \$5 per 30. G. E. Fassett, Beverly, Mass.

ARE YOU LOOKING for hatching eggs from the best breeds of egg producers? If so, you can stop with the S. C. B. Minorcas, S. C. Buff, or S. C. W. Leghorns, and you will not go astray. Have the above stock in its purity, and will furnish eggs \$1 per 15; \$1.75 per 30; \$3 per 60; \$4 per 100. No circulars; reliable goods furnished promptly. Pinegrove Poultry Yards, Lock Box 6, Pinegrove, Pa.

A SECOND HAND MONARCH incubator, 600-egg size in first class condition and perfect running order. Write for price and full information. E. H. Whitaker, 234 Salem St., Lawrence, Mass.

ASH POULTRY FARM, B. P. Rocks, Hawkins strain, exclusively; 13 eggs, \$2; incubator eggs, \$5 per 100. S. A. Jacques, West Newbury, Mass.

A SITTING of eggs for \$1 from prize winners at the great Washington, D. C., show. Buff Leghorns, Indian Games, Barred and White P. Rocks. Geo. Schrade, Sykesville, Md.

A SITTING from first class S. C. White Leghorns, bred not related. 30c. per 13; \$4 per 100. F. C. Bailey, Franklin Falls, N. H.

AT \$1 PER 15 fertile eggs. Lt. Brahmas, heavily toe-feathered W. Wyandottes; hardy vigorous birds. D. R. Lambert, Wilton, Ct.

A 200-EGG HOT WATER Reliable incubator and G. and W. Wyandottes for sale. H. W. Broadhead, Del. Water Gap, Pa.

ATTENTION, PLYMOUTH ROCK breeders. Read ad. of Frank P. Reeve, Somersworth, N. H., on second page of cover, top of column.

AT TRENTON, Mt. Gretna, Madison Sq. Garden, Reading, Saratoga, Pottstown, 75 prizes in 12 mo's. Black Langshans, Lt. Brahmas, Buff Leghorns. Eggs \$1 per 13. W. B. Miller, Douglassville, Pa.

AT \$2 per 13 eggs from choice Lt. Brahmas, Blk Lang., W. or B. P. Rocks. Large, vigorous farm raised. Butler & Batty, Box 106, Lawrence, Mass.

BANTAMS. Black Tail Jap. and Buff Pekins. Stock and eggs for sale cheap. Send stamp for prices. A. E. Benu, Rockton, N. Y.

BARRED P. Rocks and S. C. Br. Leghorns. Eggs from unrelated stock \$1 per sit.; \$5 per 50. A few Wt. Wyand., \$1 per 13. L. D. Rogers, Bath, Me.

BARRED P. ROCK, White and Golden Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching, \$1.50 per 13; \$3.50 for 39. Chas. P. Hubert, Hanover, N. H.

B. P. ROCKS, best strains. Eggs \$2 per 13; cat. free; 100 fine birds for sale. J. W. Miller, Hatton, Pa.

BARRED Plymouth Rock eggs from prize winners, only \$2, 13; \$3, 39. J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

B. PLYMOUTH ROCKS, brown egg strain. Eggs \$1 per 13. A. A. Simmons, Dighton, Mass.

BARRED and W. P. Rocks exclusively. Eggs for hatching per sitting of 15, \$1.50 from well marked, large, vigorous and healthy birds; \$5 per 100; \$3 per 50. H. J. Curtis, Red Hook-on-Hudson, N. Y.

B. P. Rocks, S. and R. C. Br. Legh's. Eggs will produce winners, \$2, 13. O. J. Stone, Kalamaazoo, Mich.

BARRED Plymouth Rocks, brown egg strain, and Brown Leghorns. Eggs \$1 per 13; 3 sittings \$2. H. Turner, 2 Pleasant St., Manchester, N. H.

BARRED Plymouth Rock and Pekin Duck eggs \$1.50 per sitting. M. M. Palmer, Hinsdale, Ill.

BAR. PLYTH Rock eggs. Morgan's northern business strain. Reduced to \$1 sit. Hardy healthy stock. White Mountain Poultry Yards, Haverhill, N. H.

BARRED Rocks, 1st cock's and pen, Reading. Black Langshans, 1st cock's, W. Chester. Extra large P. Ducks, L. Brahmas. Eggs \$1 per sitting. Extra large B. Hares. Cir. W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa.

BARRED P. ROCK eggs from the best pens I ever mated, \$2 per 13; \$5 per 40. My birds are mated for special results. Write for particulars. C. I. Drowne, Sandown, N. H.

BARRED P. ROCKS exclusively. Selected eggs for hatching from choice matings, \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26; \$3 per 39. Give me an order as I have some fine birds. None better. Walter W. Hemmingsway, Box 643, Orange, Mass.

BARRED P. ROCKS only, birds scored 82 to 93 points by I. K. Felch at Amesbury poultry show. Eggs \$1 per 13. Geo. F. Hovey, Amesbury, Mass.

BARRED ROCKS, Bradley Bros' and E. B. Thompson strains. Also a pen of Hunter's best. Eggs \$1 per 13. F. S. Nicholson, Cambridge, N. Y.

B. P. ROCKS, 13 eggs, \$1. E. B. Thompson strain. Order early. Dr. Klechner, Camden, N. J.

B. P. ROCK eggs for hatching \$5 per 100; \$1.25 per sitting. Mrs. L. C. Pierce, Hance P. O., Pa.

BARRED P. Rocks a specialty, brown egg strain. Eggs fac. per 13; \$1.25 per 26; \$4 per 100. J. A. Warner, Mechanicsburg, Camb. Co., Pa.

BARRED AND WHITE Ply. Rocks, handsome brown eggs, \$1 for 13; \$3 for 50; \$5 per 100. E. D. Barker, Westbury, R. I.

BELGIAN HARES, one fine pair breeders; seven 4 months, two 2 months old, 57 takes them. S. C. B. Leghorns and W. Wyand. eggs for hatching. James W. Crosby, Bradock, Penna.

BERKSHIRE POULTRY Yards, Otis, Mass. Thoroughbred Bar. and White Ply. Rocks, single Comb Br. Legh's; cock's and eggs cheap. Write.

BLACK Javas, R. C. White Leghorns; choice stock. Eggs \$1.50 per sit. G. F. Barker, St. Albans, Vt.

BLACK Langshans exclusively. Eggs from 3 fine pens, 20 birds in these pens scored from 90 to 94. N. A. Knapp, judge. Send for mating and score card. Eggs, \$1 13. Ed. McLaughlin, Methuen, Mass.

BLACK LANGSHANS, Dr. Robinson's strain, Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Seventy good big birds, \$2 each. Henry Mausfield, Rockland, Mass.

BLACK LANGSHANS, prize winners at Boston show, 1896. Premium on every entry. Barred Plymouth Rocks, Essex strain; Lt. Brahmas, Felch strain. Eggs \$2 and \$3 per 15. Cockerels for sale, \$3 to \$5. J. H. Colpitt, Arlington Heights, Mass.

BLACK LANGSHANS, I have got the best. If in a sitting you would invest, send me a dollar, I'll do the rest; thirty for \$2. G. C. Jones, 463 Pleasant St., Brockton, Mass.

BLACK LANGSHANS, Fine April cock's for sale. Eggs \$2 per 15. Pure Black Langhorn eggs \$1 per 15. Mrs. F. A. Coates, Mystic, Ct.

BLACK LANGSHANS, free range. Eggs \$1 per 13. J. H. Bormann, Station Mt. New York, N. Y.

BLACK LANGSHANS, White Wy'ttes. Eggs \$1 per sitting. Address Silas Dean, Oak Hill, N. Y.

BLK LANGSHANS, Cross str.; Buff Coch., Victor; W'd and Wt. P. Rock, Hawkins; W. Wyandottes, Promoter; S. C. B. Leghorns. Eggs \$1, 13; \$1.50, 26. No cir. A. B. Partridge, Holliston, Mass.

BLACK LANGSHANS, good males and females. C. E. Davis, Rutland, Vt.

BLACK LEGHORNS for sale, old or young, in lots to suit. Will be sold cheap. E. Westcott, So. Framingham, Mass.

BLACK MINORCAS, Buff Leghorns, B. P. Rocks. Very best imported and American stock. 1st premium wherever shown. Eggs \$2.50 per 13. Stock for sale. Write M. M. Lathrop, Cortland, N. Y.

Good Stock Needed.

Mr. Editor:—I have about fifty-five hens, and five or six cocks. Half the flock are pullets from last summer and spring. The remainder are older birds—one two and three years old. I get practically no eggs from them since they moulted last October, none at all from the pullets. They are the ordinary common fowls, mixtures of Wyandotte, Spanish, Plymouth Rock, Brahma, etc., but none pure. The cocks are from last spring, and are of the same ordinary origin.

They are well and warmly housed: have the run of a yard 50 x 100 feet. I feed warm soaked bread and meal in the morning, with Pratt's food, and mixed grain (wheat and corn) at night. The entire flock look smooth and fine, combs red, but still I get but two to four eggs a day, and only that number within the past week or two.

Should the pullets be kept separate from the older hens?

I am thinking of getting rid of the entire flock, and getting say about one hundred eggs of some standard breed, and have them hatched by some of my hens. Do you think that the result of such a move would be better than keeping the present flock? Understand, I want poultry simply for the eggs and table.

Cleburn, Ohio.

C. K.

Pullets, when in the same flock with hens, are often kept back in egg production. Much cannot be expected of common hens, and especially when mated to dunghill roosters. It would be far wiser to secure thoroughbred males, and gradually grade up your stock. A good Brown or White Leghorn cockerel to fifteen females would be starting the flock ahead instead of going backwards.

Of course, it would be better to hatch out some thoroughbred eggs of one breed, and grow up good stock.

But fifty-five fowls in a run but 50x100 feet is rather crowding them; and besides, we believe an examination of the birds would find them in too fat a condition for egg production.

Losing Feathers on the Wing.

Mr. Editor:—One of my pullets is losing the feathers of her right wing. I think she is too fat. Would that cause it?

P. M. Z.

Pittsburg, Pa.

The trouble would hardly be due to overfat. It is more likely that it is some disease of the feather. Use Sheridan's Condition Powder in the soft food, which will improve the condition of the blood.

Cochin Cockerel for Breeding.

Mr. Editor:—I have a Buff Cochin cockerel, late July hatch, which is not very large as yet. Could I mate him with four hens, and have good results? Do you think he would be too young to mate this spring?

East Liverpool, Ohio.

E. L. O.

If the bird is salacious and shows vigor, there is no trouble in breeding; but we think Asiatics should be fully eight months old before mating.

How Eggs are Fertilized.

Mr. Editor:—Are hens' eggs fertilized by the clutch, as some people say, or singly, one by one, day by day? 23. When a new rooster is introduced to a flock of hens, how long before the eggs can be used for hatching? That is, how long before an egg is laid is it fertilized, if at all?

C. E. P.

Auburn, Calif.

Hens' eggs are fertilized from day to day. As soon as the ovum breaks its sac, and is expelled into the ovarian tube, it becomes impregnated. Germs will live ten days in the oviduct. If a male be taken away and no other put in, the eggs laid for ten days are liable to hatch. If a new male is introduced, the fourth egg laid will be his impregnation nine times out of ten.

24. On penning flocks for breeding purposes, if ten days are allowed, it will cover every contingency.

About Floors and Runs.

Mr. Editor:—Which is the best kind of floor for the roosting room—a board floor with an inch or so of dirt; or a ground floor, to be dug out and renewed every fall?

24. If the board floor is used, how often should the dirt be swept out and new put in?

34. What makes the best floor for the scratching shed?

4th. How large a run should be connected with the scratching shed house, described in May 1, 1895, number, for twenty-five laying hens?

A. O. S.

Youngstown, Ohio.

If perfectly dry, an earth floor is the best that can be used. If a board floor is used, it should have five or six inches of sand or light dirt thrown over it, and the droppings gathered every day. The dirt must be renewed every fall. The floor of the scratching shed should also be earth. Runs should be the width of both the roosting pen and scratching shed, and from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet in length.

White Plymouth Rocks.

Mr. Editor:—What does a White Plymouth Rock cock and hen weigh, standard weight? Are they as good as the Barred variety?

W. E. H.

Olean, N. Y.

The standard weight for the White Plymouth Rock cock is nine and a half pounds; hen, seven and a half pounds. We do not believe there is much difference between the White and Barred varieties in general utility qualities.

Mating White Leghorns.

Mr. Editor:—How many White Leghorns can I mate to a male bird,—and where can I buy the stock?

M. S.

New York City.

In Leghorns, fifteen females for one male is about right. For good stock write the advertisers in FARM-POULTRY.

Price of Eggs for Hatching.

Mr. Editor:—I do not believe in advertising eggs for hatching at one dollar per sitting. I know many people who think they can catch a lot of pennies by advertising "cheap eggs" from their stock. What do you think of the price \$2 per sitting? Also, \$3 and \$5?

Shaderville, Conn.

W. E.

We never did believe in selling eggs for hatching at one dollar per sitting. Yet at the same time we know that eggs from some flocks that we have seen would be dear at that price. For good, honest stock, two dollars is about right for a new advertiser to charge. Three dollars is reasonable for choice stock. Where a man has a large reputation, gained by being a persistent advertiser and furnishing nothing but first-class goods, five dollars is not too much for a sitting of eggs, for with that sitting you practically purchase the fine results of experienced mating that have cost years of time, to say nothing about money. But one dollar is too little for good stock.

Feed for Young Chicks.

Mr. Editor:—Will you please tell me what to feed in incubator chicks after they are ten days old? I feed chick manna for the first ten days, and find it very good.

J. H.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

There are many ways of feeding chicks, and the more simple the method the better. We find that cracked wheat, alternated during the day with a crumbly mash of equal parts of bran, ground oats and corn meal, to which is added a little meat scraps or meat meal and Sheridan's Condition Powder, is a plain and yet valuable bill of fare. It grows bone, muscle and all the fat needed. Give green food daily if possible; and the finest greens for young chicks is lettuce. We found that it paid to grow lettuce in hot beds for chick feeding.

Tar Paper in Incubator.

Mr. Editor:—I have an incubator which is, I find, lined with two or three thicknesses of tar paper. I wish you would give me an opinion upon this question, whether or no this would have any effect upon the successful operation of said machine, and what the effect would be. The machine has not been a success, and I have been told the lining was the cause.

You do not state whether the tarred paper is inside of the egg chamber, or whether it is between the inside and outside casing. If the incubator is lined with tarred paper in the egg chamber, and you can detect an odor from the same when the heat is applied, then it would be very injurious to the eggs, and should be torn out and relined with some other paper that does not have any smell to it.

In case the machine is lined between the casing, and there is no odor from the same, then this will not produce poor results.

White Face in Brown Leghorns.

Mr. Editor:—A Single Comb Brown Leghorn cockerel scores 92 at a show in December, but by the middle of January has developed a decidedly white face (disqualifying). Is such a change of common occurrence in Leghorns—and would it be advisable to use such a bird (otherwise first class) for a breeder? Does this change in face ever occur in older cocks?

Titusville, Pa.

W. C. W.

The change is by no means unusual; even a change will come to cocks in their third year that were clear in the face in their second year. Those with exceedingly fine lobes are apt to develop white in the face.

Of course, it is best not to use cockerels so tainted, if we wish to stamp the defect out, but the temptation is great to use them. Pullets from such are more likely to have fine white smooth earlobes. Fully one-half the cockerels that are clear in the face become tainted as cocks.

LAMSON'S PLYMOUTH ROCKS!

BARRED and WHITE. Prize winners at America's leading shows during the past twelve years, including the World's Fair and Madison Square Garden, New York.

Eggs For Hatching

From my finest selected prize winners, packed safely to go any distance.

\$3.00 per 13. \$5.00 per 26. \$10.00 per 65.

My breeding yards this season contain only birds of the finest breeding and merit, and are sure to produce chicks of the highest quality and sure winners.

Don't fail to send for my new circular giving list of prizes won, and much valuable information, free to all readers of this paper.

Farms at West Boylston, Mass. } See adv. on {
Office: 35 Pearl St., Worcester, Mass. } back cover. {

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BLACK AND WHITE MINORCAS. Barred Plymouth Rocks. No better stock in America. At 1895 New York show won seventeen prizes on seven birds. Eggs, \$3 per sitting. Send for illustrated cat. Thomas A. Duff, Toronto, Canada.

BLOOD'S STRAIN Buff Leghorns, without a doubt New England's best. They took the lion's share of prizes last season at Franklin, Dedham and Worcester; this season at Malden and Boston, Mass.; Providence, R. I., and St. Johnsbury, Vt.; also a share at N. Y. and Washington, D. C. They are large, healthy and not inbred. Eggs \$2 per 15; \$5 per 50; \$8 per 100. Ten chicks guaranteed, or another sitting free. J. H. Blood, Walpole, Mass.

BLUE ANDALUSIAN cockerels, extra good, Abbott's English stock, \$5; also eggs \$3 for 12. M. Coleman, New Rochelle, N. Y.

BROWN LEGHORNS. S. C. bred for eggs and exhibition. Won all 1st and two 2d prizes at state fair, 1895, in class of 78 birds. Eggs only. Chas. C. Ferris, De Witt, N. Y.

BROWN LEGHORNS. Rose C. eggs \$1.50 per 15. Myra V. Norys, Cranford, N. J.

BROWN LEGHORNS. R. C. Pure stock. Eggs, W. for prices. Mrs. E. C. Noyes, Edinburgh, N. Y.

BUFF and Wh. Ind. Games, the coming fowl, eggs \$3 per 13. Buff, Wh. and Br. Leghorns, Ind. Games, Minorcas, P. Rocks, eggs \$2 per 15; \$3 per 26; circular free. Lewis C. Beatty, Washington, N. J.

BUFF COCHINS exclusively. First class stock. Eggs \$1 per sitting. L. G. Butman, Rockport, Mass.

BUFF COCHINS. Mammoth size, full feathered, vigorous stock, rich buff undercolor, winners of 19 prizes at four of New England's shows in 1895-'96. Eggs \$2.50 per 13; \$4 for 26. Quabog Poultry Yards, C. Ralph Le Gros, Palmer, Mass.

BUFF COCHINS. Sharp strain, full feathered toe. Eggs \$1 per 13. C. J. L. Ware, So. Keene, N. H.

BUFF COCHINS. Eggs \$1 per 13. Charles B. Smith, New London, Conn.

BUFF LEGHORNS. Cockerels and pullets from World's fair winners for sale. Eggs in season. Carl W. Smith, Newton Falls, Ohio.

BUFF Leghorns, eggs \$1, 15. Every bird a solid buff. Circular. Pleasure Poultry Farms, Marysville, Pa.

BUFF Leghorn eggs from solid Buffs, \$2 per 13. W. E. Booth, 9 Dewey St., Worcester, Mass.

BUFF and S. C. Br. Leg's. First class stock. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Dr. E. D. Gaudiner, Warsaw, N. Y.

BUFF LEGS. Blk Minorcas, great layers of large eggs. Light Brahmas, Duke of York strain, Black Langshans. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26. Mrs. J. P. Crossman, Norwalk, Ct.

BUFF L. Eggs \$1, 13. R. H. Newman, Bridgeport, Ct.

BUFF LEGHORNS eggs from one of the best flocks in America, taking prizes at Malden, Amesbury, Stoneham, Mass.; Manchester, N. H.; and 2d pen at the great Boston show. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$3 per 100. Address Frank Woodbury, 2nd, Beverly, Mass.

BUFF P. ROCK and Black Langshan eggs for hatching, \$2 per sitting; 3 sittings for \$5. F. C. Lincoln, Taunton, Mass.

BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS, exclusively. G. W. Hamm, Battle Creek, Mich.

BUFF P. Rocks, Wilson and Forsyth's, \$2 per 13. Buff Leghorns, \$1 per 13. Cockerels cheap. C. F. Fessenden, Chelsea, Mass.

BUFF P. Rocks, Black Minorcas, White Wyandottes. All pure bred. Buff eggs \$1.50 per 13; others \$1, no circulars. Millard Hauser, Del. Water Gap, Pa.

BUFF Wyandottes only. A few orders booked for eggs from A1 stock, such as I breed from myself. W. S. Palmer, 4957 Rubicon Ave., Germantown, Pa.

BUFF Wy'tes, Buff Legh's. Eggs \$1.50 per sit.; \$5 per 60. Best strains. Edw. Little, E. Haverhill, Mass.

CHOICE Light Brahma Eggs \$1 per 13; 6 sittings \$5. M. Herman Kent, River-side Farm, Marshfield, Mass.

CHOICE eggs, Lt. Brahma and Wh. Wyandottes, \$2 per 15. S. C. B. Leghorns, \$1 per 13. Duke of York, Giant, Forsyth and Matchless strains. H. M. Harlow, Watertown, Conn.

E. K. CLEMMER, Harleysville, Pa., breeder of 16 vari. pure bred poultry. Eggs, \$1, 15. Cat. free.

J. K. CLEMMER, Hatfield, Pa., breeder and fancier, offers choice English Carriers, Antwerps, Jacobins, White Duchesses, all colors Homers; Belgian Hare Rabbits; Thompson's strain B. P. Rocks.

CLOVER Hill Poultry Yards. White Wyandottes exclusively. Storm King strain. Incubator eggs, \$6 for 100; eggs from best matings, \$1 for 13. C. H. Hardy, Groveland, Mass. Box 108.

COCHINS, Partridge, Buff Blk and Wh't. Eggs \$1.25 per 15. Cir. free. W. H. Sheldon, Pawtucket, R. I.

COCKERELS—vigorous birds from prize winning st'k. S. C. W. Leg., Lt. Brah., W. P. R's. \$1.50 to \$3 each. Genesee Valley Poultry Yards, Avon, N. Y.

C. S. CULLUM, Meadville, Pa., has fowls and eggs to spare. S. C. White Leghorns, R. C. B. Leghorns, B. P. Rocks and B. Turkeys. Send for cir.

OUTCLOVER in sacks, best thing to make hens lay. Q. G. Quirin, Tioga Centre, N. Y.

DARK BRAHMA EGGS, \$1 per sitting. W. H. Wright, Box 229, South Berwick, Me.

DIAMOND CRYSTAL Grit for poultry \$1 per 100 lbs. Diamond Grit Co., Spokane, Wash.

F. E. DOCKERTY, Portland, Me. Wh. Wyand., every bird full standard weight; Barred, Wh. and Buff P. Rock; Wh. Langshans, Lt. Brahma, Brown Leghorns, No inbreeding; as good as the best. No more stock; eggs only. Good value guaranteed.

DRAPER'S Poultry Farm. White Wyandottes, brown egg strain, very large and vigorous birds, \$2 for 15 eggs. S. C. White Leg., very large birds, and lay a very large white egg, same price. All my stock is healthy. Satisfaction guaranteed. Stock for sale in the fall. My stock is equal to any in the country. Lock Box 18, No. Attleboro, Mass.

EARLY LAYING LT. BRAHMAS, prolific laying W. Wyandottes. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$3 per 30. Lt. Brahma-W. Wyand., cross, 75c. per 13; \$5 per 100. E. L. Eaton, Millington, Mass.

EGGS \$1 per 15. Red Caps, Black Minorcas, B. P. Rocks, Light Brahmas, Wh. Wyandottes, G. Polish, P. E. Twining, Kipton, Lorain Co., Ohio.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. S. C. W. Leghorn, Light Brah., W. and B. P. R's and W. Wy'te from carefully mated vigorous st'k of highest grade, \$2 1/3; 3 sittings, \$5. Genesee Valley Poultry Yards, Avon, N. Y.

EGGS from prize winning stock Golden and Silver Laced Wyandottes, Blk Langshans, S. C. W. Leg., \$1 per 13. S. D. Thompson, 555 High St., Bath, Me.

EGGS \$1.50 for 26, B. and W. P. Rocks, B. Leg.; 20 var. Stamp for cat. J. A. Rubrecht, Telford, Pa.

EGGS. S. C. W. and B. Leghorns, Partridge Cochins, 1st premium stock \$1 for 15. Edward P. Smith, Highland Poultry Yard, Box 116, Monroe, N. Y.

EGGS. Barred Plymouth Rocks, prize winners at Malden, \$2 per 13. A few good breeding cockerels from \$3 to \$5. Address J. W. Randall, 403 Salem St., Malden, Mass.

EGGS for hatching and stock for sale from Brown and Wh. Leghorns, Dark and Light Brahmas, Bar. Ply. Rocks, Wh. Wy'tes. Prices reasonable. Chas. H. McIntosh, Linden St., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

EGGS from No. 1 Wh. P. R., S. C. R. and Buff Leg., \$1 per 13. Cir. free. B. A. Bradbury, Buxton Centre, Me.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. Wh. Holland turkeys, Wh. Wyand's, Br. Leghorns, Wh. Guinea, Ind., Geese, Pek. Ducks, Mary J. Heath, Rockwall, O.

EGGS. 1 Game, \$2 per 13; Buff and W. Leghorn, R. Caps, Lt. Brah., Blk. Min., and S. B. Bant., \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. J. D. Brands, Warrington, N. J.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. For incubator use from pure bred W. P. Rocks per 100, \$2.50; B. C. P. Bantams, per 13, \$1. Dutchess Co. Poultry Farm, F. W. Velle, Mgr., Rhinebeck, N. Y.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. Light Brah., Dark Brah., B. Ply. Rocks, 75c. per sitting. Mrs. Geo. Davis, St. David, Fulton Co., Ills.

EGGS for hatching, Single Comb Brown Leg., Lt. Brah., Leghorns, prize winners at Troy, 75c. each, 91 to 93. Brah. Antocrat str. Legh., eggs \$1.50; 13; Brah. eggs \$1, 13. Chas. A. Parish, Oneonta, N. Y.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. from S. C. Brown Leghorns, 50c. per 13; or \$1.75 per 60. Pekin Ducks, \$1 per 12; or \$1.50 per 25; circulars free. Geo. L. Bartlett, Easton, Md.

EGGS till July. B. P. Rock, Rudd-Hunter str., \$1 per 13. Miss S. L. Currier, South Hampton, N. H.

EGGS from my prize winning Dark Brahmas, Partridge Cochins and B. B. R. Game Bantams; 4 entries at Boston, 4 prizes. Eggs \$3 per 15. C. A. Ballou, Worcester, Mass.

EGGS 50 cts. per dozen. Pure bred, large prolific laying Barred and W. P. Rocks and S. C. Brown Leghorns. W. J. Dickson, Barnes, Pa.

EGGS for hatching: Barred P. Rocks, Bright and Black strains; farm raised, healthy stock. Also R. C. B. Leghorns, prize winners. 15 eggs \$1. Marshall Walcott, Bolton, Mass.

EGGS FOR HATCHING from latest style thoroughbred R. C. White, R. C. Brown Leghorns and Black Minorcas. Greatest layers on earth. Safe shipment guaranteed. 15 eggs \$1; 26, \$1.50. Send for circular free. Ottaquechee Poultry Yards, North Hartland, Vt.

ELGIN, ILL. J. T. Ransley will sell fertile eggs from vigorous pure bred Sil. Wyandottes, Blk Lang's, S. C. White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks, \$2 per 13; \$5 per 40. I give perfect satisfaction.

FARM BRED Barred and White Plymouth Rocks. Choice Guernsey Cattle, large Yorkshire Swine. Special selected sittings, \$1.25; or 2 for \$2. White. Clover Ridge Farm, Peterboro, N. H.

FERTILE EGGS for incubators. From pure bred Barred Rocks, Silver Wyandottes, Buff White and B'n Leg., \$6 per 100. From high grade crosses, \$4 per 100. Pea Combed White Rocks, \$2 sitting; cock's of same \$2. Tillinghast Bros., La Plume, Pa.

FERTILE EGGS from large, vig. R. and S. C. Brown, S. C. W. Leghorns, and W. Wyand. Order early. \$1. 15; \$2.50, 39; \$5, 100. Hadley Bros., Peterboro, N. H.

Better Come East.

Mr. Editor:—1st. Is there in New York or Boston any commission merchant who handles "strictly fresh" eggs? If so please give address.

2d. Do you think poultry will pay when eggs are only eight or nine cents a dozen, and live poultry four cents a pound?

3d. Can I ship eggs from here to New York, to some commission merchant, about once a week, and get "strictly fresh" egg prices?

4th. Would it pay me to sell my farm here, which would sell for about \$3,000, and buy a small farm in Massachusetts, so that I would come nearer to New York and Boston markets?

5th. What would a twenty acre unimproved farm suitable for poultry, cost in Massachusetts? S. Beresford, S. Dak.

1st. Yes. There are plenty of commission dealers in Boston and New York who handle "strictly fresh" eggs—so many that we cannot give you their addresses.

2d. Much depends upon cost of production. If it costs you ten cents a dozen to produce eggs, and you sell them at eight or nine cents, we can see no profit; if, however, they cost six cents a dozen (and at your low price of grain you ought to produce them for that) and you sell them (yearly average) for fifteen cents, we can see a fair profit. It is the yearly average that determines the profitability of producing eggs, and not the low prices of March and April. Of course, if you get no eggs in December and January, when prices are up, your yearly average is low; if, however, you get a fair egg yield in November, December and January, your yearly average and profit will be all right.

3d. No. They won't be "strictly fresh" eggs when they have traveled two thousand miles and are a week or ten days old. Eggs "stale" rapidly, just as does milk, and the transportation of either over two thousand (or one thousand) miles of railroad would perceptibly "lower" the quality; they would not be "strictly fresh" on arrival, and would have to go on the market as "western" eggs.

4th. Much would depend upon circumstances. For a strictly poultry business New England is undoubtedly the best part of the world to-day, having the markets which appreciate (and will pay well for) high class poultry and eggs. On the other hand, grain and other poultry supplies are higher here than with you there near the fountain head. (See "New England for Poultry Raising," page 92, March 1st F.-P.)

5th. Anywhere from \$1,000 up, according to circumstances.

Growth of Tail Feathers.

Mr. Editor:—Kindly inform me how long it will take the tail feathers of a Black Minorca cockerel to grow again after being pulled out by accident about a week ago. N. L. Portsmouth, Va.

It generally takes, in good healthy stock, eight weeks or one hundred days to moult; but tardy specimens will sometimes take even twelve weeks. But the growth of single feathers, when pulled out, is generally rapid, and eight weeks will see them well grown.

The only way we can keep our stock looking fine is to pluck the broken feathers, and in eight weeks we have the satisfaction of seeing new ones in their place.

Dry Atmosphere Kills Chicks in Shell.

Mr. Editor:—Can too dry an atmosphere in an incubator cause the chicks to die during the process of incubation—say from the fifth day until the fifteenth? We know, of course, it will dry up the egg and cause large air cells in the egg; but will this have a tendency to kill the chicks seven or eight days before they are hatched? S. O. Staatsburg, N. Y.

If the atmosphere becomes too dry the chicks in the eggs will die for want of air. This becomes a study of the proper ventilation with the incubator you are using.

The writer of the above enclosed ten cents for a reply by mail, but as he gave no address, excepting initials, we could not favor him.

A Question of Breeds.

Mr. Editor:—Which is the best laying variety—the White or the Brown Leghorns? Or, are the Black Spanish or the Black Minorcas better? Also, which is the best of the larger breeds—the Light Brahmas or Plymouth Rocks? And which is the best all round and most paying breed to keep?

By answering these questions you will be settling a dispute. Some say the Brown Leghorns are the best; I think the Whites are. Only yesterday a dealer told me there was nothing to beat the Black Minorcas; another party said the Black Spanish. A. S. New York City.

The Single Comb Brown Leghorns will lay the most eggs. The Black Spanish lay the

NO CHARGE

For a 100-lb. sack (price of which is \$1.50) delivered at your station, unless the

H-O POULTRY FEED

Manufactured by the H-O Company

Shows better results than your present grain ration for morning mash. Composed solely of grain in the scientific proportions for producing eggs and improving the condition of the fowls. Write for a bag, and pay if you get results.

THE H-O COMPANY, New York City.

Brookhaven, March 7th, 1896.

The H-O Company: Gents:—I am feeding only 30 fowls this season. Some people may say the fowls would lay any way at this season of the year; but how about this? I got up to 14 eggs a day on the last part of the feed, and now I am back to eight and nine. Enclosed find \$1.50 for another bag. Respectfully yours, J. W. REEVE.

Inwood, N. Y., March 3d, 1896.

H-O Company: Gentlemen:—Find enclosed a money order for seven dollars and fifty cents in payment for two bags of H-O Poultry Feed, bought by J. B. Wetherwax and Frank Smith, at the Madison Square Garden; for the remaining four dollars and fifty cents please send three bags of the feed. We like the food very well. J. B. WETHERWAX.

largest eggs; the Black Minorcas, next largest; and the White Leghorns next. The Plymouth Rocks are better layers than the Light Brahmas. The most popular all-round breeds are the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Black Langshans, and Light Brahmas.

Small Leghorn Eggs.

Mr. Editor:—Do Brown Leghorn pullets lay many eggs which are so small as not to be fit for sale? Haines, Calif. A. B.

Brown Leghorn pullets lay smaller eggs, generally, than pullets of any other breed. After a year old the size of the egg is greatly increased, and then increases gradually until the fourth year.

A Hen With Spurs.

Mr. Editor:—I have a Black Minorca hen with spurs that a male might be proud of. Isn't this very unusual? My memory does not recall anything of this character in the books, and it is a feature I never saw before. C. E. B. Kansas City, Mo.

It is not uncommon for hens to have spurs, especially in the Mediterranean and Spanish classes; and exceedingly frequent in the Game varieties. It is not found so often in the Asiatic and American breeds.

Four Practical Breeds.

Mr. Editor:—What four breeds do you think the best for meat and eggs for market? G. L. J. Vergennes, Vt.

Opinions on this would be changed by location, as some fowls do better in one locality than another. But, for general use, the junior editor would prefer the Light Brahmas, Black Langshans, White Wyandottes, and the White Leghorns.

A Mixed Lot of Fowls.

Mr. Editor:—I have about six Plymouth Rocks, five Brahmas, and several common ones, none of which exceed two years. I also have a Brahma and Leghorn cockerel. What would you do, as I only get one or two eggs a day? H. J. B. St. Charles, Mo.

If the Leghorn cockerel is an active bird, we should do away with the Brahma male, and use only the former as a cross on the hens. Study well the advice given in these columns on feeding and care.

Loss of Voice.

Mr. Editor:—Can you tell me what to do for a Light Brahma cockerel who has lost his voice? He appears otherwise in fine condition. E. L. G. Montreal, Canada.

Give, daily, a teaspoonful of glycerine to which are added three drops of Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. Try that remedy for a week. If no better, then give a half-teaspoonful of cod liver oil once a day.

Swelled Crop.

Mr. Editor:—I have a Plymouth Rock hen which has a swelled crop. It does not eat much, and is quiet most of the time. What can I do for her? A. P. Brooklyn, N. Y.

If the crop is merely swollen, it can be relieved by slightly acidulating the drinking water with about ten drops of nitric acid in a quart of water, and giving chopped onions in the soft food.

Wyandottes for Vermont.

Mr. Editor:—Which are the best—White Wyandottes or White Plymouth Rocks—to stand the winters we have up here? J. W. McC. Windsor, Vt.

We should think the White Wyandottes would be best, as they have a rose comb.

FINE Light Brahma eggs for hatching. Per sitting 75c. Mrs. Nellie Bullock, La Harpe, Ill.

FOR SALE, 20 choice S. C. W. Leg. Cock's large size, \$1 to \$1.50 ea. M. G. Keason, Tilton, N. H.

FOR SALE, a few Silver Wyandotte cockerels, Hawkins strain; also a few very fine Light Langshans, \$3. Eggs from above stock, \$1.50 per sitting. H. H. Wildes, Ipswich, Mass.

FOR SALE, Red Caps, Golden Wyandottes, Winners at Cleveland, cock's 1st, 2d, 3rd; pullets, 2d, 3rd. Further, 1st; pen 1st; scores 91 to 94. G. W. c's 2d and 4th; 92; pen 2d. 75 birds for sale, from \$1.50 up. Eggs 13 for \$1.50; 26 for \$2.50. We are bound to do business if we don't make a cent. Enclose stamp for reply, and mention this paper. F. W. Littlejohn, Painesville, Ohio.

FOR SALE, Eggs from prize winning S. C. B. and S. C. W. Leghorns and B. P. Rocks, \$1 per sitting. Pray Bros., E. Lebanon, Me.

FOR SALE, Pullets and c's, B. Langs, Light Brahmas, B. Ply. Rocks and B. W. Leg. Eggs for sitting from the above strains, \$1—13 for incubator \$4—100. R. Woodman, Faulkner, Malden, Mass.

FOR SALE, Eggs and stock, old and young S. C. Brown and S. C. Buff Leghorns; also Minorcas and I. Game. Send for circular. D. L. Frisch, Middleport, N. Y.

FOR SALE, two 100-egg incubators, and two 200-chick pipe brooders, Prairie State, first class order, \$35; or \$15 each. F. W. Kennedy, Frankford, Pa.

FOR SALE, 1 Farm Poultry incubator; has hatched 90 per cent—price \$8. Also Bronze Turkey gobblers 1/2 wild blood, \$5. E. H. Spear, Charlotte, Vt.

FOR SALE, No. 2 Monarch Incubator, 600-egg; two No. 2 Rankin brooders, 240 chicks each; Walker & Pratt No. 6 hot water heater, with fittings and 240 ft. pipe—sold altogether for \$95 cash. Call and examine. In first class condition. Get off train at Spring St. station, B. Providence R. R. W. J. Sheedy, Gould St., W. Roxbury, Mass.

FREE with every tenth order, 1/2 sitting of eggs: 14 varieties of A. No. 1 stock. Send for catalogue. L. G. Andrus, Elyria, O.

GOLDEN and Buff Wyandottes; eggs, 12 for \$1; Pekin Duck eggs 10 for \$1. Express paid to New York city on orders of \$3 and upwards. James H. Corwith, Water Mill, L. I., N. Y.

GOLDEN and Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs from my prize winners at \$2 per 15 for Golden; \$4 per 15 for Columbian. L. H. Davis, Port Jefferson, L. I., N. Y.

GOLDEN Wyandotte eggs for hatching from No. 1 stock, \$1 per 13. F. P. Nye, North Falmouth, Mass.

GOLDEN Wyandottes, Golden Polish, and B. P. Rocks, 10 G. W. cock's 1st. Eggs \$2 per 15; \$3.50 per 30. Edwin M. Livingston, Capron, Ill.

GOLDEN Wytes. Eggs, Inc., \$4 for 96; \$2, \$2; two, \$3.50; three, \$5. J. R. Nichols, Rochdale, Mass.

GOLDEN Wyandotte eggs, \$2 per sitting three for \$5. Winners at Boston, S. C. B. Leghorns and W. P. Rocks, \$1 per sit. E. S. Morrill, Franklin, N. H.

GOLDEN WYTTES a specialty. Choice cock's, \$1.50. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. A. M. Scott, Clark, N. Y.

GRAND SACRIFICE SALE of prize winning Black Minorcas, Houdans, and White Plymouth Rocks. Address C. E. Marshall, Rowley, Mass.

J. HALLENBECK, Altamont, N. Y., B. R's, L. Brah's, W. B's, Buff Legs, Buff Bant. Cir. free.

HIGH CLASS Bar, P. Rocks, W. Wyand., Buff Leghorns. Great care and expense used in selection and mating. Cir. H. R. Applegate, Hightstown, N. J.

HOUDANS and White Wyandottes, 15 eggs \$1. L. H. Barpee, Box 8, Dublin, N. H.

INCUBATOR EGGS for sale at \$5 per 100; shipped from New York to save duty. G. A. Radtke, Jr., Bronxville, Westchester Co., N. Y.

INCUBATORS, 2 600-egg Monarchs, sale or exchange, \$20 and \$30. H. R. Foster, Ashby, Mass.

I. GAMES, Youngsters bred from Dola, Boy, Agitator 12 lbs. and mates. Cock's \$1.50 to \$3; pullets \$1.50 to \$4; eggs \$1.50 and \$2 per 13. W. B. Megear, Smyrna, Del.

LANGSHANS, Black and White. A few cockerels for sale. Eggs, in season, \$2 per 13. Mrs. M. P. Allen, 12 Auburn St., Nashua, N. H.

LANGSHANS, R. C. Leg., W. and B. Rocks, Houdans, Ronen and Cay Ducks, T. Geese. Prize winners, \$1 per sit. R. D. Button, Box A, Cottons, N. Y.

LEGHORNS, Single C. Wh., Br. and Buff; Rose C. Wh. and Br.; Blk Langshans, Gold Polish, Wh. and B. Ply. Rocks, Wh. and Buff Cochins, farm raised stock. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$3 per 26. Stock for sale. L. Hommedieu & Fowler, East Norwalk, Ct.

LEGHORNS, White S. and R. C. eggs from prolific layers, \$1 per sitting. Ref. and cir., "How to Feed Chicks etc." free. Fine breeders for sale cheap. Price depending on number wanted. Rye Neck Poultry Farm, Box 183, Manaroneck, N. Y.

LT. BRAHMA, 15 eggs \$1; P. Ducks, 9 eggs, \$1. Bowe, Wismer & Bowe, Box 24, Pt. Pleasant, Pa.

LT. BRAHMAS and B. P. Rocks. Eggs \$1 per sit. Cornud & Bros., P. O. Box 273, Leominster, Mass.

LT. BRAHMAS, S. C. B. Leghorns, B. P. Rocks. Eggs \$1 per 13. W. P. Cotton, Chureland, Va.

LIGHT BRAHMAS only. Farm bred. Eggs \$1 for 13. H. T. Smith, Bucknauville, Pa.

LT. BRAHMAS, early laying strain, fertile eggs, 75c. per 13. J. I. Farrington, W. Claremont, N. H.

LT. BRAHMA, W. Wy., I. Game, B. Cochins and B. Langs, eggs, \$1.50 per 13, from best strains in this country. Incu. eggs, W. Wy-Lt. B. cross. Fer. guar. Carefully packed. C. H. Spencer, Phenix, R. I.

LIGHT BRAHMA and Barred P. R. eggs for hatching, from large, vigorous and healthy birds, \$1.50 per sitting of 13. For incubators, \$5 per 100. Address Edward E. Case, Box 283, Pawtucket, R. I.

LT. BRAH., 15 eggs \$1. S. D. Craft, Camden, N. J.

MAMMOTH LT. BRAHMAS exclusively. Eggs for hatching year round, \$1 1/2; \$5 1/2; \$5 1/2. Andrew M. Gallagher, Box 317, Norristown, Pa.

MAPLE GROVE Poultry Yards. Early prolific laying healthy stock. Housed in open scratching shed plan. Five best laying breeds. Rock bottom prices. Sitting of 13 eggs for only \$1.25. S. C. White Leghorns, Wyckoff strain; S. C. Brown Leghorns, B. P. Rocks, S. S. Hamburgs and Black Minorcas. F. S. Webb, Wellsboro, Pa.

MAPLEWOOD Farm, B. P. Rocks, S. C. Br. Leg's. Eggs \$6.00; \$1.13. M. L. Emerson, Haverhill, Mass.

MENOMENTO POULTRY YARDS. Buff Leghorns exclusively. Eggs \$1.50 per sitting from Bufts that are buff. W. F. Schradner, Millville, N. Y.

MIDLAKE POULTRY ASSOCIATION. Cir. of Andalusians, B. Minorcas, Black Spanish, Buff Leg., Anconas; also remedy for feather eating. E. S. Tappan, Sec'y, 32 Lawrence St., Haverhill, Mass.

J. H. MILLER, Ligonier, Pa. Barred Rocks, Light Brahmas, Buff and White Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Game Bantams, Pekin Ducks. Eggs \$2, 15.

MY PENS of B. P. Rocks are made up of birds scoring from 90 to 923 points, headed by the best males I could buy of the most noted breeders in the country. Eggs \$1.50 per sitting. S. D. Bugbee, Concord, N. H.

Mrs. NANNIE OATES, Vernon, Ill. Eggs Lt. and Dk. Brahmas; R. C. Wh. and Br., and S. C. Br. Leg.; B. P. R., B. Langs, B. Spanish, P. D. 15, \$1.25. T. Geese, 9, \$2.

\$1 per 15 eggs of S. C. B. Leg., Forsyth str. and W. Wyand. Miller str. Cir. fr. G. Hyde, Appleton, N. Y.

\$1.00 per 13 eggs from choice White Rock, Buff Leghorns, Arnold's, Blk. Minorcas and Pekin Ducks. F. N. Keeler, Chenango Bridge, N. Y.

\$1.00 Eggs, Buff and Barred P. Rocks, Buff and R. C. Brown Leghorns; White, Silver and Golden Wyandottes, Blk Minorcas, Buff Cochins Bantams, \$1 per 13. W. J. Wiberly, Peekskill, N. Y.

\$1 per 15 eggs of S. C. B. Leghorns, Rocks, Ronens and Pekins. Jas. Taggart, Northumberland, Pa.

\$1 FOR 13 EGGS. Prize winning W. Wyandottes, farm raised, good layers. Won 8 premiums on 9 entries, first cock 1/4, 1st pullet 95. Eggs are hatching well. Edith Rowley, Fredonia, N. Y.

\$1 PER 13; \$5 per 100; cat. free. Leghorns, Minorcas, Wyand., P. Rocks. E. Standish, Andover, Ct.

100 B. P. ROCK EGGS fresh and fertile, \$4 Pure stock. Also Rose Comb B. P. Rocks and Black Wyandottes, \$2 for 15 eggs. Cat. free. Emanuel Schieber, Brandywine, O.

100 EGGS, \$4; 15 EGGS, \$1. W. and B. P. Rocks, W. and Buff Leghorns, S. L. Wyandottes and Light Brahmas. Fine stock, farm raised. Beaver Lake Poultry Farm, Baldwinville, N. Y.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS only. Eggs, \$2 per 13. Thos. T. Wetmore, Box 753, New London, Ct.

PAR. AND BUFF COCH., and Light Brahma eggs for hatching. Miss F. J. Piper, 381 Merrimac St., Newburyport, Mass.

PEABODY POULTRY YARDS. Light Brahmas and Buff Cochins, fine stock, all large ones always for sale. Eggs \$3 per 13; \$6 per 40; 117 prizes won in 1895 at Amesbury, Malden, Stoneham, Manchester and Boston. C. L. Beckett, Peabody, Mass.

PEKIN DUCK eggs, 6c. ea. Ducks average 104 lbs. 90 percent fertile. N. P. Brown, Westboro, Mass.

PEKIN DUCKS. Eggs \$1 per 15; \$3 per 50; \$6 per 100. Geo. A. Harbert, Cuyler, N. Y.

PEKIN duck eggs, 11 for \$1. White Hol. turkey eggs 12 for \$2. B. F. Peck, East Bethany, N. Y.

PEKIN DUCK eggs, 10 for \$1.25. Stock direct of Rankin last year. C. H. Tiffany, Brooklyn, Pa.

PEKIN DUCKS, av. 18 lbs. pair. Per. eggs \$1.50 per 25; \$5 per 100; discount on large orders. Hawkins strain B. P. R. \$1 per 13; L. Brah. cross \$4 per 100. Mated pig's 50c. pr. E. A. Ayer, Truro, Mass.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Barred and White; eight yards of the finest and best in the world; all strong, healthy fowls from pure bred prize winning stock. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26. Colchester Poultry Yards, C. H. Otis, prop., Colchester, Conn.

PLYMOUTH Rocks, Barred, White. Eggs \$1 per 13. Stock strictly first class. E. D. Page, Bangor, Me.

About Starting a Poultry Farm.

Mr. Editor:—Will you please tell me about what would be the cost to start a poultry farm with four hundred fowls? I have the land, but would have to put up the buildings and raise the fowls.

Can I clear four hundred dollars a year with the care a beginner could give if he stuck to the business, and did the best he knew how?

I am getting forty dollars per month, but want to go into the poultry business, and know I can make a success of it if there is any money in it, for I am used to continuous work. In fact, I am never contented unless making money in some way.

I could live here in the country very nicely on four hundred dollars per year, but would of course want to put up a larger business as I became more familiar with the business. I am a young man of twenty-two, and expect to make a home of my own soon whatever I do.

F. C. W.

Richmondville, N. Y.

It is certainly not asking too much—four hundred dollars from four hundred hens—but even at that small profit, there are a number of "ifs" to be considered. How much money have you got? That is an important question. Have you enough to put up your buildings, get your stock and all the necessities, with sufficient remaining to live from while the plant, business and experience are growing? No one in any business do not come at once. They must be started and then grown.

Now if our correspondent will start with two breeding pens of some thoroughbred variety, and from these hatch out young stock during this month and May, he can, by July or August, sell off the surplus cockerels as broilers, and the income would about pay the feed for the pullets. Then if those pullets are rightly fed and cared for during the summer, by fall they should start laying, and furnish a good supply of eggs during the entire winter. That would be the starting of the income, and each year the plant, and the experience, and the business, and the income would grow.

To put up poultry houses, a fair estimate of the cost would be about two dollars a running foot. A house to accommodate the two breeding pens would cost about one hundred dollars. The fowls (two pens of fifteen each) would come to about seventy-five dollars, if you wanted choice, or forty-five dollars for ordinary pure breeds. You would need, even to start this way, two hundred dollars; but you would be laying a foundation upon which you could build a very successful business.

Probably you could so arrange it that you would not have to give up your work until the farm had grown to such proportions as to afford you a good income. After the first year you should be able to realize one dollar per head from all your hens; and if you are persevering, you could eventually run it up to two and three dollars per head. Of course, much of this would depend upon your ability to learn, and the way you conducted the whole affair.

You should read the book, "Profitable Poultry Farming," which we will send for twenty-five cents. It will answer many of your questions, and probably save you much money.

Eradicating Contamination.

Mr. Editor:—Please tell me the time necessary for searating a pure bred cock and eight hens from the rest of a common flock, for breeding purposes.

Grand View, Iowa. W. H. B.

Separate your breeding stock, and mate full ten days before saving the eggs for breeding purposes. Mr. Felch says ten days will eradicate all taint there may be by running with general stock.

White Wonder Weight.

Mr. Editor:—What do you call standard weight for the White Wonders? D. J. P.

North Brookfield, Mass.

White Wonders have no standard acknowledgment by the American Poultry Association, therefore we cannot give any authorized weight, for they as yet are not acknowledged as a thoroughbred breed of fowls. Breeders of the variety claim from nine to eleven pounds for chicks, and seven to eight pounds for hens.

Plymouth Rock Sports.

Mr. Editor:—I have a handsome pair of Plymouth Rock pullets which sported a clear white. Are they of any value to breed from? G. A. W.

Danvers Centre.

Yes; secure a fine White Plymouth Rock cockerel from some party who has good ones, and breed them. Their progeny will be valuable for others as new blood.

PLYMOUTH Rocks, S. C. White Leghorns. Chicks just hatched 8c, to 15c, each. Distance no objection. Send for cir. Jos. D. Wilson, Rosemont, N. J.

PULLETS, S. C. B. Leghorn, early hatched fine stock, \$1 each. J. C. Hoyer, Huntsville, Ohio.

PURE BRED ROSE Comb Brown Leghorns. Eggs, \$1 for 15. W. B. Gairard, Delta, Ohio.

R. C. B. LEGHORNS—Standard bred. Eggs \$1 per 15. F. R. Cutting, Waco, Mich.

ROSE and Single C. Brown Leg's have both won in Madison Square Garden. Have Rose cock in 1st pen 36. Eggs only \$1 per 15. Circular. W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa.

R. C. B. Leghorns, score 24 by Felch, and B. P. R. eggs \$1 and \$2 per 15. V. Chase, Malden, Mass.

R. C. B. LEGHORNS and B. P. Rocks. Eggs \$1 per 15. G. E. Cortiss, Glastown, N. H.

ROSE C. B. Leghorns, specialty 10 years. Also S. C. Black Leghorns, farm range. Breeders score 30 to 36. Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$2.50 per 30; circular free. J. L. Randolph, Battlet, Ohio.

R. C. W. LEGHORNS. Eggs from good stock 15 for \$1; 3 for \$2; fair hatch or order refilled free. C. R. Rodger, Gouverneur, N. Y.

S. C. BROWN Leghorns and Buff Cochins. Black stripe in hackle and saddle. Send for cir. Eggs \$1 per 15. Wm. H. Cyphers, Washington, N. J.

NED M. SHAW, Franklin, N. H. Fine S. C. Br. and Wh. Leg. Stock for sale. Eggs \$1 per 15.

C. B. SHERMAN, Oxford, Mass., breeds Partridge Cochins, White Plymouth Rocks, Buff and Silver Laced Wyandottes. Stock A 1. Eggs \$2 per 15. Also Golden Sebright Bantams; eggs \$3 per 15.

SILVER WYANDOTTES. Every bird fit to show. Eggs 1 sitting, \$3; 2 sittings, \$5. Dr. N. W. Sanborn, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

SILVER WYANDOTTES. Whittier's strain, the best obtainable. I won 1st on cockerel, 1st, 2d and 3d on pullet; and 1st on pen at the Amesbury show. Felch, Judge. Eggs for sale from this stock, \$2 a sitting; or 3 sittings for \$5. Chicks for sale in the fall. G. D. Whittier, West Newbury, Mass.

S. C. BROWN Leghorns exclusively. Address Howard A. Pinney, Sheffield, Warren Co., Pa.

S. C. B. LEGHORNS exclusively. 20 years. Circular free. Tront & Miller, Gaston, Ind.

S. C. B. LEGHORNS, thoroughbred pullets, or cockerels at \$1 each. L. V. Greene, Centerville, R. I.

S. C. BROWN LEGHORNS. Grand breeding cockerels for sale at a bargain. Now is the time to buy. J. C. Berrane, Attleboro, Mass.

S. L. Wyandotte eggs for hatching, \$1 per 15. See Mar. 1st F. P., p. 38. G. H. Mitchell, Pownal, Me.

S. C. B. and Buff Leg. eggs \$1.25 per 15; \$2.25 per 30; good stock. D. L. Rishel, Locust, Indiana Co., Pa.

S. C. BROWN LEGHORNS; eggs from stock winning more prizes in last three years than any other in New Hamp. \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. F. E. Colby, Bow Mills, N. H.

S. C. B. LEGHORN hackle and saddle feather for stamp, eggs \$1.50. E. J. Metcalfe, Janesville, Pa.

S. C. BROWN Leghorns. Eggs from prize winning birds; won 2 1sts, 1 2d and spec. at Amesbury. \$1.50 1st; \$4. 4c. John L. Currier, Newbury port, Mass.

S. C. B. Leghorns, S. C. W. Leg., Blk Min. Eggs \$1 a sitting. B. Cooper, 424 Wash. St., Brighton, Mass.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS only. Eggs \$1 per 15. W. S. Ward, Fuller's Station, Albany Co., N. Y.

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS. Eggs for hatching, \$1 for 15, from prize winners at Madison Square Garden, N. Y. E. O. Kosselle, Heschel Farm, P. O. Box 64, Albany, N. Y.

JAMES M. SMITH, Perkiomenville, Pa., breeder of 21 var. of poultry. Eggs \$1 per 15. Ill. Cat. free.

L. W. SPRINGER, Elma, Iowa, B. P. Rocks and Golden Wyandottes. Send for circular.

H. B. SWARNER, Plainfield, Pa., breeds Wh. and C. I. Games; 12 other varieties. Stamps acct.

THE HOME of S. C. Leghorns, Buff, Blk, Wh., Br., Dom., and Sil. Duckwing Leghorns, G. S. and S. S. Hamburgs, Gol. and S. L. Wyan. Stock first-class. Eggs for hatching. W. A. Hurd, Alton, N. H.

32 PRIZES IN TWO YEARS. At Malden I took again the creamy prizes in Bred Plymouth Rocks, Silver and White Wyandottes. Score 32, 33, 34 by Hawkins, Felch, and Lambert. Eggs \$2 per 15. K. Berthold, Woodville Poultry Farm, Box 43, Greenwood, Mass.

TOULOUSE Geese eggs 25c, ea. from 1st prize st'k. Bos. show. B. P. Rocks, Pek. Ducks, \$1 per sitting. Address L. W. Hawkes, Box 26, Lyuu, Mass.

TOULOUSE Geese eggs \$1.50 for 11; Embden, \$2 per 11; Bronze turkey, \$2 per 13; L. Brahma, Wh. Fly, R. Pearl Guinea. Game chicken and Pekin duck eggs \$1 a doz. Mrs. M. H. Graeb, Vesta, Ind.

TRY THOS. GRIFFITH for S. C. W. Leghorns from the best strains in America. Stock and eggs very reasonable. Tyler Hill, Pa.

TURKEY EGGS, 25c, each, Narragansett, finest stock in Mass. N. P. Brown, Westboro, Mass.

26 Rankin Lt. Brahma, 16 P. Duck eggs \$1; 26 B. Rock, Wh. or Br. Leg. eggs \$1. V. Orvis, Mexico, N. Y.

\$2 FOR 13 Bred P. Rock eggs from a fine pen 5 pullets, 4 hens, one very large cockerel; from 30 eggs set in Jan., only 4 infertile. H. Murrman, Honesdale, Pa.

\$2 PER SITTING. All varieties prize poultry. Thorudale Poultry Farm, Spokane, Wash.

J. T. WALLACE, Del. Water Gap, Pa., breeds Buff, W. and B. P. Rocks, Blk and W. Min., Lt. Brahms, Wh. and Gol. Wyand., Buff, W. B. and Blk Legh., S. S. Hamb., Blk Lang. and Wh. Jap. Ban. score 92 to 97. Prize winners. Cir. free. Eggs \$1 to \$3-13.

WANTED, Gardener and Poultryman, to take care of a small garden and lawn and about 100 fowls. A quiet, pleasant place in the country. Permanent place. Must be temperate, clean, industrious. Ad. "Poultryman and Gardener," Pike Station, N. H.

WANTED at once two 300 or 400-Challenge, Prairie State, or Monitor incubators and brooders. Must be in first class condition and cheap. State full particulars. N. O. Bagge, Knotts Island, N. C.

WANTED, SITUATION on a poultry farm by a boy 15. Some experience with cockerels. Wants good wages. C. A. C., Box 176, Holliston, Mass.

WANTED, WORK on poultry farm, by man of some experience. S. S. S., care F. P.

Take a bright downy little chick

or, better still, a flock of them, and let them have a small quantity of

Bowker's Animal Meal,

every day or every few days; and if you do not feel well repaid for the small outlay it requires, your experience will have been entirely different from that of thousands of other poultrymen who follow this practice regularly. An Animal Meal chick is a healthy chick.

In feeding it, however, remember that being richer in proteine than other foods by 10 to 50 per cent, a much smaller quantity of Bowker's Animal Meal should be used than of other kinds.

BEING RICHEST, IT GOES FARTHEST.

Trial bag \$1.
Four times as much \$2.25.
Book, "The Egg," free.

THE BOWKER COMPANY,

43 Chatham Street, - - Boston, Mass.

WESTBORO POULTRY FARM. Barred Plymouth Rocks, Hawkin strain. I have about 50 fine large farm range hens finely marked with non-relative male birds. These are from exhibition stock. Eggs \$1.50 for 15; \$2.50 for 26; \$5 for 39. C. F. Woodbury, Westboro, Mass.

WE WILL take orders for a few sittings of White Wyandottes or Barred Plymouth Rocks at \$1 per sitting, from good birds. Orders filled in rotation as received. Fuller & Co., Hinsdale, N. H.

WHITE Guineas \$2 pr. N. P. Brown, Westboro, Mass.

WHITE INDIAN GAME eggs \$3 per 13. Cockerels for sale. C. W. Cole, Dighton, Mass.

WHITE INDIAN GAMES. Two good cockerels for sale. Eggs \$3 per sitting after March 1st. S. Coolidge, Mt. Auburn, Mass.

WHITE Leghorn eggs from prize winners, only \$1.50 per 15. J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

WHITE and Black Minorcas. Pure bred prize winners. Eggs \$1 per 15. Sarah Shaw, Windthrop, N. Y.

WHITE and Buff P. Rocks and White Wyandottes. Send for cir. Dr. H. J. Ashtley, Machias, N. Y.

W. B. and Buff Rocks, Blk. Min. and Br. Leg. \$1 15; \$6 per 100. Daniel Stauffer, Spring City, Ia.

WHITE Plymouth Rock eggs from prize winners, only \$2, 13; \$5, 39. J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

WHITE PLYMOUTH Rocks only. Large, vigorous birds, have won first prizes wherever shown; farm range. Eggs \$1 per 15; \$6 per 100. William F. Hinds, De Ruyter, N. Y.

WHITE P. Rocks, Empire strain. Fine early hatched cockerels, weights 8 lbs. and over, \$2 and \$3 each. Eggs from best matings, \$1.50 per 15; 100 eggs, \$6. Geo. A. Hurlbert, Cuyler, N. Y.

WHITE P. ROCK eggs from best pens, mated by D. J. Lambert, \$2 per 15; \$5 per 39. For incubator eggs and premiums won, write for circular. C. L. & J. C. Welsh, Box 95, Marlboro, Mass.

WHITE Plym. Rocks, farm range, strong, vigorous. Eggs \$1 per 15. Wm. T. Eastburn, New Hope, Pa.

W. P. ROCKS, brown eggs, prize layers, fine birds. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. D. M. Deal, Salisbury, Mass.

WHITE P. ROCKS, large sized, big layers. Eggs \$1 per 15. Lawrence Mason, Boothwyn, Pa.

WHITE WONDER, Light Brahma, Black Langshan and S. B. Polish eggs from the best of stock, \$2 per 15. H. W. Heath, Piermont, N. H.

WHITE and Buff Wyandottes. Eggs \$2, \$1.25; Buff, \$2 per 15. W. H. Shule, Middletown, Ct.

WHITE WYANDOTTES and Narragansett Turkeys. W. E. Mack, Woodstock, Vt.

WHITE WYANDOTTE c'h's, brown egg strain, \$2 to \$5 each. W. B. Eastman, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

WHITE Wyandottes exclusively, brown egg strain. Eggs \$1 per 15. Eggs for incubator \$4 per 100. Stock in season. P. D. White, North Attleboro, Mass.

WHITE Wyandottes. Eggs from prize winners at Worcester, '95, Boston, '96, only \$2.50 per 15; \$6 per 30 eggs. J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES only. First prize winners at R. I. State fair; no inbreeding. Stock A 1, of large size, and great layers of dark eggs. Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$8 per 100. Send stamp for circular. J. W. Andrews, Dighton, Mass.

WHITE Wyandotte, stock A 1; eggs \$1.50 per sitting. No inbreeding. C. W. Cole, Dighton, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTE c'h's, large heavy birds, \$2 to \$4 each. C. W. Cole, Dighton, Mass.

WH. Wyandotte's only. Eggs for hatching a specialty. \$2 per sitting; \$5 per 3 sittings; \$8 per 5 sittings; \$10, 100. L. C. Lake, Box 28, South Lancaster, Mass.

WH. WYANDOTTES, Storm King and Empire strains. A few choice cockerels, \$2 each. Eggs from best matings \$1.50 per 15; 100 eggs \$6. Geo. A. Hurlbert, Cuyler, N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTES only. Eggs \$2 per 15. H. F. Hardy, Lock Box 24, Lacoma, N. H.

WHITE WYANDOTTES and Buff Leghorns. Eggs for hatching from choice selected stock. R. D. Rogers, Collingswood, N. J.

WHITE WYAN. eggs from pen headed by winner at Vermont show, \$1.50 per 15; also good ones, \$1 per 15. Wm. F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J.

WH. WYANDOTTE eggs for hatching \$1 per 15. No inbreeding. S. A. Abbott, Beverly, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, Buff Leghorns, Golden Sebright Bantams. Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$2.50 per 26. C. L. Crisswell, York Springs, Pa.

WH. WYANDOTTES. Brown eggs \$2 per sitting. Dr. N. W. Sanborn, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

W. WYANDOTTES, prolific layers of dark brown eggs. 1st prize winners. Birds large size, vigorous. Eggs 13, \$1.50; 60, \$5. G. S. Whitford, Phenix, R. I.

WHITE WYANDOTTES ONLY, farm raised, Klapp Bros. and Felt strains. Eggs \$1.25 per 15; \$2 per 26. H. M. Burr, So. Milford, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES and Lt. Bred n. as; prize stock. Eggs \$1 per 15. T. H. Munson, Warehouse Point, Ct.

WHITE WYANDOTTE eggs \$1.50 per 15, from prize stock. John S. Bicker, Rochester, N. H.

WHITE WYANDOTTE, Buff Cochins, Black Langshan, superior stock. Strong healthy birds, bred for large size, laying qualities and standard points. Eggs for hatching \$2 for 15; \$5 for 39. E. E. Barnum, Norwalk, Ct.

WHITE Wyandotte eggs from pens headed by our first prize winners, \$3 per 15; \$4 per 26; \$10 per 65. Our strain has won more first premiums at the leading shows than that of any breeder in the United States or Canada. John B. Felt, Somerville, Mass.

WH. WYANDOTTES, exclusively. My stock is farm raised, has unlimited range, and is first-class in every respect. Eggs \$1 per 15. Victor D. Fraser, Woodstock, Vt.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, Storm King and Promoter c'h's; Blk Lang., Killy & Smith and Felch str. Eggs \$1 per sitting. Satisfaction guaranteed. Estab. 1888. A. E. Rollins & Son, Methuen, Mass.

WHITE Wyandottes, Eggs \$1 per 15, of prize winning stock. Fe' in Ducks. Eggs \$1 per 15; prize winners' stock for sale in season; sat. guaranteed. Jos. Lambert, 127 N. Kelsey Ave., Scranton, Pa.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, brown egg strain. Eggs \$1 per 15. E. C. Billings, Deerfield, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES. Layers of the finest brown eggs. My birds are large and fit for my ads. Fertile eggs now. J. W. White, E. Corinth, Vt.

WILL EXCHANGE NURSERY STOCK for eggs or fowls. Write me. E. F. Jewell, 21 Richmond St., Rochester, N. Y.

The Express Agents' Errors.

Mr. Editor:—I received a White Wyandotte cockerel to-day from one of your advertisers, Mr. Cole, of Dighton, on which the express charges from Boston here were seventy cents, while a Buff Leghorn cockerel sent from Ayer Junction last week, only cost thirty-five cents express charges. Surely there is something wrong in the charge from Boston here. What should I do to have this error corrected? I enclose the express receipt to you, and wish you would straighten the matter out if you can find time.

Belchertown, Mass.

J. H. T.

You say nothing whatever about the way in which the bird was cooped, and that makes all the difference in the world. If he was cooped in a cloth covered coop, without slats outside the cloth, as though there was no cloth there, the charge should be double rate (the old rate). See "Express Rates," page 129, which quotes the instructions governing cloth covered coops.

If the bird was shipped in a box coop, or a slat coop having cloth inside the slats to cut off draughts, then the charge should be "one rate," and you should get the overcharge refunded. To do that requires a simple statement of the facts, in writing, to the superintendent of the company that brought the bird to you, in this case the "American." He will investigate the case, and if there was an overcharge will order the agent to refund it to you. In that same article, page 129, you will read, "It may not be out of place to say that the restitution of overcharges are very much simplified by attaching the proper evidence, with a plain statement of facts. Affidavits and the assistance of attorneys are entirely unnecessary." The express companies have a complete record of every shipment, and a receipt for every transfer, hence can trace an error easily, only that it takes time. The promptest investigation and restitution of which we have knowledge was of an overcharge of twenty-five cents on a coop of two cockerels shipped to us from West Newton.

The shipper, Mr. Bright's superintendent, took the coop to the Adams Ex. Co.'s agent at West Newton, and asked him to bill the coop to Wellesley at one rate. "No, sir; fowls is double rate," said the agent. Mr. Smith asked him if he didn't know that there was a new rate on fowls shipped in box coops. No, he didn't, *hadn't heard of it*, and brought out his instructions, dated of year and a half ago, and insisted that he had no other instructions to go by. Mr. Smith started to drive off and then said to himself, "Mr. Hunter will just enjoy following this fellow up," so he turned back and shipped the birds, then wrote us the facts. We got a mem. of the weight and charge from the Wellesley agent, and went to the superintendent of the Adams Co. in Boston. He took the case in hand, but was incredulous of the West Newton agent's having told any such "cock-and-bull" story until we showed him Mr. Smith's letter, and told him it was a straight story. "That fellow is 'talking through his hat,'" said the superintendent; "he'll have to be called down," and when we left the office a stenographer was receiving the "calling down" to be duly forwarded to the agent. Four days after the Wellesley agent handed us the twenty-five cents, with the remark, "I guess that West Newton agent won't trot out his old (revoked) instructions again, judging from the correspondence. Mr. Spencer gave him 'a roast,' I tell you."

The superintendents *laugh* at the idea that any agent hasn't received the new instructions, as quoted by Mr. Steinhilber, (page 129), and any mistake made by the agents will be promptly investigated and the overcharge will be refunded. The express companies are in business for *business*, and it is for their interest as well as ours, to have the business done right, and every error set right.

WANTED

We want every reader of this journal, who is interested in poultry, to have a copy of Nissly's Poultry Annual and Catalog of "EVERYTHING FOR THE POULTRY YARD" for 1896 (12th year). It's absolutely the most complete book of the kind published; 80 6x9 pages, finely illustrated, including eight half tone cuts of Michigan Poultry Farm. Tells all about the arrangement of our buildings; our 24 Grand Breeding Pens for '96. It describes and illustrates the BIGGEST and CHEAPEST stock of Poultry Supplies in America; tells all about our New American Incubator and Brooder. It's full of information and worth dollars to every poultryman; don't miss it. The book is FREE TO ALL but we request a 2c stamp for postage.

GEO. J. NISSLY, SALINE, MICH.

THE BEST Silver Wyandottes

Is what you are looking for. My

Were the leading prize winners at New York, 1895 and 1896, and my first prize cockerel was pronounced the best seen for years. You will get eggs from him and his sire and his best brothers—same as I set myself. Prices on back cover.

A. C. HAWKINS, Lancaster, Mass.

Seeds That Grow Into Dollars.

FREE!

To old subscribers to FARM-POULTRY. For one new subscriber to FARM-POULTRY sent us by any present subscriber to this paper, accompanied with \$1 to pay for the subscription, we will send the party remitting

5 Packs of Garden Seeds, or
5 Packs of Flower Seeds,

Post paid, free of charge. These seeds are the

CHOICEST VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS,

grown by one of the largest raisers, who states as follows: "Our determination is to grow and sell only such seeds as have gained for us the largest trade enjoyed by any other house in America, with critical gardeners and experienced planters." Send all orders to us.

I. S. JOHNSON & CO.,
22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Perfect Poultry Pictures.

The Pictures of Typical Poultry in pairs, which are appearing in FARM-POULTRY, are pronounced by competent judges to be the best ever printed. They are drawn by the renowned animal artist, FRANKLANE L. SEWELL. We have had several requests for these pictures printed on heavy paper suitable for a port-folio or for framing. Therefore we have had prints of them made on heavy coated paper, size 9½ x 12½, Artist's Proofs. Each will contain only one breed, picture and description. The expense for all, if gradually secured by our readers, will never be felt, and they will have the most perfect collection of poultry pictures yet produced.

Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 23, '95.

I. S. JOHNSON & Co., Boston, Mass.

Gents:—Yours of the 21st at hand, also two proofs, which are certainly very fine. Am sure if you would state in FARM-POULTRY that you would send these for 25 cents each in stamps you would receive sufficient postage to keep you going for a year, as I think every up-to-date Partridge breeder would obtain one. I think them the finest I ever saw, and a model for us to breed to.

Yours truly,

A. W. BELL.

President Ohio Cochon Club.

WE HAVE NOW FOR SALE

Barred Plymouth Rock, Cock and Hen.
White Wyandotte, Cock and Hen.
Partridge Cochon, Cock and Hen.
Brown Leghorn (S. C.) Cock and Hen.
Light Brahma, Cock and Hen.

Price for each breed, packed in a strong mailing tube, and postpaid to any address, 15 cents; or any three, if ordered at one time, 30 cents in two cent stamps.

To Any Old Subscriber who renews and sends us one new subscription to FARM-POULTRY with cash \$2 for both, we will send three of the pictures postpaid free of charge for their trouble.

Send all orders to

FARM-POULTRY,
22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.



We Get So Many

testimonials as to the efficacy of Death to Lice, some are never published. Read these: I find it the best thing to kill hen lice that was ever manufactured. A. W. PIKE, Attleboro, Mass., March 19th, 1896. Death to Lice is the stuff; it beats anything I ever saw for the purpose intended. THEO. DODGE, Henderson, Iowa.

I get lots of good reports from the Death to Lice. It does the business. I sold one man a 25c. package. He had the loudest horse I ever saw; he was just alive with lice, and it cleaned them as clean as a penny. F. H. RATHBUN, Woodville, R. I., March 20, 1896.

I have tried it, and 'tis all right—Death to Lice. C. F. CLOTE, Edina, Mo.

I use your Death to Lice, and find it a very valuable article. Mrs. M. C. LEMON, Housertown, N. J.

I find your Death to Lice a grand thing; was surprised to see how quick it kills them. J. E. HART, Durham, Ct.

I find Death to Lice sure death to them. DAN HARRISON, McLane, Pa.

I find Death to Lice all right. GEO. W. OSTERHOUT, David City, Neb.

The Death to Lice ordered from you has been given a trial on my fowls, and that terror (the body lice) wiped out of existence as effectually and thoroughly as if by fire; and to the fowls the preparation is as harmless as road dust. GEO. CLOTT, Summit Sta., O.

You have a remedy that will kill lice in a second, and we will swear to it; don't want anything "just as good"—would not have it. Every poultryman should have a box on hand. WEST H. MORTON, Southern Stock Farm, Nashville, Tenn.

When I began raising chickens, The lice they played the dickens, And my poultry didn't pay Till I needed good advice, Using Lambert's Death to Lice, Which drove the pests away. W. B. GERMAN, Dausville, N. Y.

We have

Agents and Dealers

handling these goods all over the United States and Canada, who sell it at the following prices: 5 oz. box 10c.; 15 oz. box 25c.; 48 oz. package 50c.; 100 oz. package \$1.

We guarantee its work when used according to printed directions which accompany each package, and it will not injure even a child should they handle it. Does not fade or discolor plumage of a fowl, or affect the eggs during incubation. While a sitting hen is never right until you fill her feathers full of it.

Send \$1 for 100 oz. pkg. delivered to your Ex. Co., nearest point to me, or by nearest agent to you. Ten cents will bring a trial 5 oz. box to your P.O. in a hurry, together with my Picture Book of Poultrymen.

D. J. LAMBERT,
Apponaug, R. I.

THEY HAVE WON, they still win, and shall win again. Headquarters for the largest and best B. Minorcas, score 94 to 96. America's best Blue Andalusians, score 94 to 96. Brown Leghorns, the richest colored birds. White Wyandottes, unsurpassed for size and whiteness of plumage. Golden Wyandottes, for richness of plumage and fine points cannot be beaten. Indian Games (Jumbo strain). Stock and eggs at low prices. Handsome catalogue free, stamp accepted. FRED B. MOREY, Lane's Mills, Pa.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

Eggs after March 1st, \$2 per sitting; three sittings or more at one time, \$1.50 per sitting.

R. V. BROWNING, Box 127, Natick, R. I.

BUY THE BEST.

This adv. will appear once a month.

ROSE COMB BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS

The best all purpose fowl in existence, and

BLACK WYANDOTTES in America. 15 EGGS, \$2

Also, White Wyandottes, Red Caps, Silver Spangled Hamburgs, Barred Plymouth Rocks, and Pekin Ducks eggs, only \$1 for 15 eggs. Plym. Rock eggs, \$1 per 100. Also, best six varieties SEED POTATOES grown.

Oyster shells, 60c. for 100 lbs.; \$9 a ton. Send for cat.

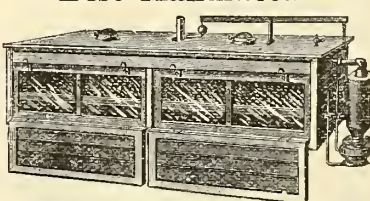
EMANUEL SCHIEBER, Brandywine, O.

GIVEN TO EVERY LADY
A New Book on Fancy Work containing 50 handsome illustrations. Among them are designs for Sofa Pillows, Table Covers, Scarfs, Tray Cloths, Dollies, Celluloid Work, Tapestry Painting and Embroidery; also another book giving directions how to make all kinds of Rugs and Mats, 63 in all. These two books we'll mail you free if you will send 10c for a 3 months trial subscription to The Home, a 20 page paper containing stories, fashions and fancy work illustr'd. Send to 'The Home, 141 Milk St., Boston, Mass.'

THE CHALLENGE

LEADS THEM ALL!

Best Manufactured and Remains Undeclared.



IT HAS WON PRIZES

In the strongest competition

At All the Leading Shows

in the country during the last six years, and

STANDS TO-DAY UNDEFEATED.

We Can Satisfy Anyone,

BECAUSE WE GUARANTEE

That each and every one of our machines shall be made in a first-class manner, from good sound kiln-dried stock, hand-somely finished in oil and varnished, unless otherwise ordered; and that the tanks, boilers, etc., shall be made from the best galvanized iron and copper. The Regulator, being the best ever used, never fails to work, and never varies. They will hatch more fertile eggs than any other incubator in the world; and they are easier to run than any other, and less liable to get out of order. We guarantee the safe arrival of all goods, and take all risks of transportation. We guarantee that if the incubator is not most represented after a fair trial, we will take it back and refund money in full. Our thermometers are a special pattern, and every one is well tested before leaving the factory, and warranted correct. We also furnish the best Hydro-Safety Brooder Lamp on the market. No. 1 size, 75c.; No. 2, \$1.25.

Send for catalogue, full of useful information regarding artificial incubation.

WOOD & PAIGE, Box 22, Lynn, Mass.

BARRED P. ROCKS,

Hawkins and Bradley strain.

BLACK MINORCAS.

Eggs per 15, \$1.50

These P. Rocks are as fine as anybody has, and we guarantee you will be pleased when your chicks begin to show their breed. Every customer of ours has expressed satisfaction with the quality of our stock. If you desire stock for eggs only, the Black Minorcas are the best for all purposes. The Barred Plymouth Rocks lead the world—they are an American bird.

P. A. BRADFORD,
Tyngsboro, Mass.

INCUBATORS, Monarchs, Challenge, others; some slightly used. Highest prices allowed for machines taken in exchange for larger sizes. If you are buying new machines of any kind, get my terms. I give away practical Brooders with each incubator order. Write stating kind and size you prefer. Free catalogue Poultry Farm findings and supplies.

W. J. SWIFT, JR., Agent, Waquoit, Mass.



FREE!

Fine illustrated catalogue of 13 varieties of High Class Poultry. Our specialties are Barred and White Fly Rocks and Colored Muscovy Ducks. Eggs for hatching now. We guarantee to please. Address, J. E. TEAL & CO., Indianapolis, Ind.

FOR SALE or FOR RENT.

A Poultry Farm in complete working order; 2½ acres; running water; good dwelling and barn; modern poultry buildings and appliances; with or without stock; fifty miles from Philadelphia; two railroads; half-mile from nearest station. Everything in good order. J. C. WILLIAMS, 30 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

BOYS WANTED everywhere to sell our paper. We send papers without money with full instructions for selling. **NO MONEY TO INVEST. NO RISK. GOOD PAY** THE NEW YORK WEEKLY RECORDER, New York.

WILLOW POND DUCK RANCH,

Largest duck yards in the state. \$90 offered in four cash prizes. Pekins exclusively. Prices reasonable. Send stamp for catalogue and full particulars. R. CONROW, Cummamison, N. J.

THOMPSON'S Minorcas.

Prize winners at the leading shows. At Boston, two 1sts, two 2ds, one 3d. At Providence, five 1sts, two 2ds. Also prize G. Wyandottes and Buff P. Rocks.

EGGS for Hatching.

Send for catalogue. CHAS. A. THOMPSON, Box 52, Melrose, Conn.

BLACK MINORCAS in the WEST. 13 Eggs hatched 9 to 13, but three sittings. \$1.50. All 1894 shipments. H. H. WALLIS, Delavan, Wis.

BLACK LANGSHANS.

The greatest record ever made on the breed at America's greatest show, Madison Square Garden, N. Y., 1896. 1st cock; 1st and 2nd cockerels; 1st, 3rd and 5th pullets; 2nd and 3rd hens; 1st, 4th and 5th breeding yards. The grand special for best full stock—From were A. 1, winning at the late Ontario show 1st and 2d cocks, score 96 and 95½; 1st and 2d pullets, score 92½ and 94½. These birds won in very hot company. The cockerels were pronounced the most stylish ever shown in Canada. Thanking you again.

I am yours truly, T. H. SCOTT.

St. Thomas, Ontario, Feb'y 25, '96.

Dr. F. M. Robinson—Dear Sir:—I write to thank you for straightforward and honest dealings with me. The pullet I purchased from you in 1894 won 1st prize at the Ontario show, scoring 96. The eggs I purchased from you last spring produced very fine stock—From were A. 1, winning at the late Ontario show 1st and 2d cocks, score 96 and 95½; 1st and 2d pullets, score 92½ and 94½. These birds won in very hot company. The cockerels were pronounced the most stylish ever shown in Canada. Thanking you again.

I am yours truly, T. H. SCOTT.

Feeding Too Heavy.

Mr. Editor:—My flock of poultry consists of thirty hens and two roosters. For their morning meal I feed five quarts of mashed potatoes and meal or shorts, mixed together, to which is added a little ginger or red pepper. For their afternoon meal I feed one and a half quarts of wheat, oats and corn, besides green bone and ground meat every other day. They have not laid thirteen eggs since last October. Marlow, N. H. E. R. J.

You are feeding entirely too heavy; twice the amount that you should. Besides, the combination of potatoes, meal, corn, and meat makes too fattening a ration for them.

Handling Eggs.

Mr. Editor:—I have been told by some that eggs for hatching should not be handled, while others say that they should be turned over night and morning, so the yolk cannot settle. Please tell me which is right, and how long eggs for hatching purposes may be kept. Brooklyn, N. Y. A. P.

We believe in standing eggs on the ends, and turning them every day or two. If the skin of the band is very moist, or of a greasy disposition, it might be best to have on a light pair of gloves when handling the eggs. Eggs for hatching should not be kept longer than three weeks.

A Fair Scoring Minorca.

Mr. Editor:—Do you call 92½ good scoring for a cockerel that took first at Northampton? This one is a White Minorca which I purchased of a Connecticut breeder. What do you call standard weight? North Brookfield, Mass. D. J. P.

A White Minorca to score 92½ points is a fair bird. Cockerels weigh six and a half pounds; pullets, five and a half pounds; cock, eight pounds; and hen six and a half pounds when standard weight.

Age of a Breeding Cockerel.

Mr. Editor:—Will you let me know how old a cockerel should be to safely use for mating? Chicago, Ills. B. F. T.

One must use his common sense in this matter; but we think the Asiatics should be eight months or older; American breeds, seven months or older. Minorcas the same. The Mediterranean breeds are very precocious, and could be mated quite young, but best be seven months old. Cocks in Leghorns and Minorcas are safer as winter breeders than are the Asiatics.

Comb and Wattles Frozen.

Mr. Editor:—I have a fine Single Comb White Leghorn cockerel that got out one cold day and had his wattles frozen so that they came off. His comb turned black. Will the wattles grow out again? What can I do for him? Wyoming, Ills. Mrs. A. K.

The parts of the wattles that have dropped off will not grow again. A comb often turns black from a chill, which, when bathed in glycerine and vaseline, returns to life and color. But when so badly frosted as to turn dry and black, it will come off, and remain disfigured for life. When well otherwise, however, the bird is not injured for breeding.

Free Range for Fowls.

Mr. Editor:—I wish to build ten pens. We have one hundred and sixty acres of land, and the hens range over it at their pleasure. They do not have to be shut in during winter more than a day or two at a time. This winter was unusually mild; but, of course, we cannot expect to have every winter as mild as this. Now the question: Will it be better to scatter the pens around, or build them under one roof? As the hens have so much range, cannot I keep more in a pen than if they had to be yarded? Will they go to their own pen if they mix in the day time? Can I not keep twenty-five fowls in a pen 10x10 feet, where they have so much range? Hamilton, Kans. R. D. M.

Where fowls have free range, the buildings should be scattered, or the families will mix up, and the result would be that some of the houses would be packed, while others would be empty. To prevent this the buildings should be about an acre or even more apart. The further from each other they would be the better.

Where unlimited range is given, and fowls are never indoors during the day time, twenty-five fowls could be *roosted* in a 10x10 feet house, but the houses would have to be cleaned every day.

Feeding Cracklings.

Mr. Editor:—I see that you recommend feeding cracklings to fowls, but I have not seen how much of it to give. Will you please state what proportion to feed to one hundred fowls? I am keeping hens for eggs. Greensboro, Pa. E. G.

We generally feed about a half-ounce to each fowl, twice a week.

We desire to call our readers' attention to the small ad. of C. E. Marshall, Rowley, Mass., in our classified column this issue.

As it is getting late in the season he is closing out his fine breeding cockerels at a great sacrifice. Write to him for prices.

A Good Show Record.

When a breeder who raises only six varieties of pure bred stock, viz.: White Wyandottes, White Ply. Rocks, Sil. Laced Wyandottes, Buff Cochins, Rose and Single Comb Brown Leghorns and Pekin Ducks, wins forty premiums at one show and thirty at another, including 1st and 2d on every variety exhibited, he must have something more than ordinary stock to do it with. Such is the show record of R. E. Woollard, of Amesbury, Mass., who is now offering eggs for hatching from his prize winners at only \$2 per 13; \$5 per 26; and who has also for sale cockerels and pullets of all the above varieties at reasonable prices. Send your address for a circular, free.

The Rhode Island Show.

The Rhode Island Poultry Association will hold its next annual exhibition at Westerly, Dec. 9-12.—the entries closing Nov. 30th, next. One or more poultry institutes are expected to be held in Westerly at the time of the show, at which prominent speakers from outside the state will deliver addresses.

The association is planning to reach different parts of the state with its exhibitions, and hopes to make each exhibition characteristic of the industry in the part of the state where it is held. At Westerly it is thought the exhibition will be remarkable in the number of turkeys and geese, one hundred specimens of the former being guaranteed already.

BEST OF EACH VARIETY!

Was the award given my collections of

Barred Plymouth Rocks,
And S. C. Brown Leghorns,

From GROVE HILL POULTRY YARDS,
See ad. opp. title page. Box 401, Waltham, Mass.

POULTRY FOOD.



SOMETHING NEW!

Canned Meat For Poultry.

This food is nice, fresh meat, carefully cooked, ground fine, seasoned and hermetically sealed. Will keep an unlimited time until opened. Conveniently put up in 8-oz. cans. Especially adapted for chickens and moulting fowl.

Being ground fine, it can be readily mixed with the soft food and fed so as to give each fowl an equal share. Price 30c. per can; \$3 per dozen. Address,
HOLLIS DRESSED MEAT & WOOL CO.,
20 North St., Boston, Mass.

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS, Champions of New England.

Thirteen Prizes at the great Boston show. Three out of a possible four 1st in the single bird class, 1st and 4th cockerels; 1st, 3d, 4th and 5th pullets; 1st and 3d hens; 2d cock. Also cash specials for best display and for best cock, hen, cockerel and pullet shown by one exhibitor. Eggs for hatching, \$3 per 13; \$5 per 26.

WOODLAWN POULTRY YARDS.

CHAS. J. FOGG, Waltham, Mass.

HIGH WATER MARK!

Reached by F. L. Mattison's Silver Wyandottes. At Boston, Jan'y, 1896, they won the special for best display, also 1st, 2d and 3rd on Cockerels; 1st, 2d and 4th on Pullets; 1st on Hen; and 2d on Cock. At Madison Square Garden, New York, Feb'y, 1896, they won the Grand Special Prize offered by the Silver Wyandottes Breeders of America for best Cock, Cockerel, Hen and Pullet, besides 1st on Exhibition Pen; 1st and 2d on Hens; 1st, 2d and 3rd on Pullets; 3rd and 4th on Cocks; and 4th on Cockerels. Eggs \$5 per 13; \$8 per 26; \$10 per 39. F. L. MATTISON, South Shaftsbury, Vt.

MINORCAS.

BLACK AND WHITE

Cockerels and pullets for sale, bred from imported stock. Best laying hens on earth. When writing for prices, always mention what you want, and send stamp. J. W. DODD, Turin, N. Y.

WE GET LOTS

OF

INQUIRIES

from one ad. in this paper, but not so many orders as we should, and do not quite understand the reason. We suit nearly all those who send (you can't please everybody) and why don't you order from us? It is for our advantage to try to please you, and we have a fine office and fifteen years solid experience in the business behind us.

SEND US AN ORDER!

FRED. HALLETT & CO.,
Farmington, Conn.
Ten years in poultry, B. P. Rocks; the result for \$2 per 13 eggs; \$5 per 39. Write quick. Eggs fertile.

THE IMPROVED MONITOR INCUBATOR



Hundreds of testimonials as to its merits over all other makes. Over one hundred First Premiums.

Medals and Diplomas awarded at the World's Fair. Send stamp for an illustrated book containing much valuable information.

—BUY THE BEST.—
A. F. WILLIAMS, 2 Race St., Bristol, Conn.
JOS. BRECK & SON, Boston, Mass., Agents.

BELGIAN HARES,

Pekin Ducks, Fancy Poultry and Fancy Pigeons. Catalogue free.

WINFIELD S. LATCH & BRO.,
Wenonah, N. J.

BUFF AND WH. P. ROCKS.

Eggs for hatching from high scoring birds, \$2 per 13; \$5 per 40. Ten more good Buff pullets for sale, \$2 each. Satisfaction guaranteed.

A. E. RAY, Amherst, Mass.

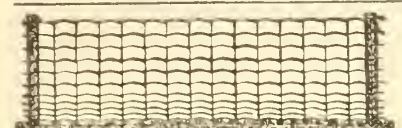
WE BUY Permanently C. O. D. directly from farmers, butlers, eggs and poultry. We supply shipping boxes. For prices address, "HOTHAM SYNDICATE," P. O. box 32, Station D, New York.



Dark Brahmas.

The great winter layers and unexcelled table fowl. Eggs \$2 per 13. Choice birds \$1.50 to \$5 each; pairs \$4 to \$7; trios, \$5 to \$10. Pens—male and four females—\$7 to \$10.

H. D. KENDALL,
Lowell, Mass.



TURKEY SUBDUED AT LAST.

In spite of the common belief that she could not be restrained, an eastern man raised an immense drove, pent up with **PAGE**, from the egg to the oven. See picture in "Hustler."

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

Grant's Thoroughbreds

Black Javas—The best all-round fowl and best winter layers. **W. F. B. Spanish**—Hidalgo strain; the greatest of all egg-producers. **Buff Leghorns**—Lister Kay strain; none but high scoring birds in my pens. I have been seven years perfecting my strains of Javas and Spanish. Eggs, \$2 per 13. **B. GRANT, 169 Harrison St., Bloomfield, N. J.**

BAR'D BUFF P. ROCKS.

My birds are large, vigorous and well cared for, also noted for great laying qualities. From 80 Barred Rocks my egg record for Feb. was 1122; and 946 for first 18 days in March. Eggs from pens mated by Judge H. B. May, \$2 per 13; other good pens, \$1.50 and \$1 per 13. Incubator eggs \$5 per 100. Write for circulars. **EDWIN RIEDEL,**
Easthampton, Mass.

**Farm Raised Thoroughbred
BARRED AND WHITE P. ROCKS.**
Bred from the best strains of prize stock, and mated for the best results. Eggs from selected stock, \$1 per sitting; incubator eggs \$5 per 100; discount on large orders. **GRANITE STATE POULTRY FARM,**
Box 350, Dover, N. H.

NEW Poultry Book

Containing Plans for an Incubator; How to Operate Incubators; Plans for Poultry Houses; Cures for Diseases; History and Illustrations of Leading Varieties of Poultry. A 50 page book of useful information for 25c. silver. **L. O. FULTS,**
Jeffersonville, Ohio.

PERSONAL I am Making Good Wages

at writing and other home work. Will send full particulars FREE to any lady enclosing stamp. This is no deception. **MRS. T. L. FOWLER, E. FENBROKE, N. H.**

Knapp Bros.,

BREED AMERICA'S LEADING STRAIN OF

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS,



White Wyandottes.

HIGHEST HONORS IN



More prizes and higher honors awarded to our strain of these two popular varieties as exhibited by us at 35 of the leading shows, and by our customers during the past 13 years than to all others combined. A fine line of Selected Breeding Birds for Sale.

EGGS For HATCHING

At \$3 per 13; \$5 per 26 \$10 per 65; from the best matings, that will produce the winners for 1896 and '97. Send stamp for new illustrated catalogue, giving highest prize record ever won by any breeder of any variety. Address us at

P. O. Box 110, FABIUS, N. Y.

Good Weight.

Mr. Editor:—I have the largest Barred Plymouth Rock pullet I ever saw. It will be a year old in April (this month), weighs now seven and three-fourths pounds, and is laying. Is that not a rare case? H. I. Brecksville, Ohio.

"Chicken Sense."

Mr. Editor:—I have been taking your paper for about four months, and want to say it fills the bill exactly. I have learned more "chicken sense" for the few numbers I have received than from all the other papers I ever read. Our hens have laid much better since we adopted your feeding plan. Nine pullets and two old hens laid one hundred and forty-seven eggs in January; one hundred and seventy-eight in February; and up to March 15th laid one hundred and twenty-one eggs. On March 14th each hen gave us an egg. M. G. Kenosha, Wis.

NEW MONEY-MAKING INVENTION.

Dear Reader:—I met a friend selling a new case for attaching photographs to tombstones so they are imperishable and last forever. Being out of employment, I ordered two dozen from the World Mfg. Co., Columbus, O., who manufacture many good selling articles for agents. I sold twelve the first day, profit \$18. Every family has photographs. Anyone can put one on the monument in five minutes. The case is elegant, made of aluminum, the new metal. Every family is glad of a chance to buy. They are beautiful, and yet so cheap. I made \$67 in one week, \$186 last month. You can do same by writing. C. B. SNOW.

Mr. Hawkins' White Wyandottes.

When the now popular White Wyandotte was admitted to the Standard one of the first to appreciate their great merit was Mr. A. C. Hawkins, and it was not long before he became owner of nearly the entire stock of the originator. By the same skillful matting that has brought his famous strain of Plymouth Rocks to the top, he has perfected a strain of White Wyandottes that are second to none.

Many of the White Wyandottes of the country have run down in size, so that a great majority of the birds of this breed in our shows are small in bone, and below Standard weight. Mr. Hawkins, by using the largest specimens for breeding, has increased the size of his birds, and nearly every specimen in his breeding pens this season is above Standard weight from one to two pounds—pure white in color, and extra nice in comb. He devotes two large farms to the White Wyandottes, and their popularity and sales increase each season. His first prize pen at New York in Feb., 1896, was perhaps the best ever exhibited, and one of the great attractions of the show.

Hawkins' New Circular.

A. C. Hawkins, Lancaster, Mass., has just issued a new circular announcing his winnings, etc., on Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Silver and White Wyandottes, and Pekin Ducks. Illustrations are given of famous prize winners, and excellent inducements are offered to those desiring strictly first-class stock. Those interested in any of these breeds had better write Mr. Hawkins for a copy.

Poultry Supplies and Poultry.

If you want to buy poultry supplies at bottom prices you had better write W. C. Byard, Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio, for price list and circulars. Mr. Byard is also a successful breeder of Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas and Black Langshans, and has a fine lot of birds for sale. Eggs \$2 per 13.

Practical Poultry.

Readers of the article, "From a Farmer's Standpoint," in this number, who are asking themselves where they can get eggs from "practical" fowls, are directed to the advertisement of Mr. Ralph S. Norton, Falmouth Foreside, Maine, who "shipped over five thousand dozen eggs to one Boston store alone last year, and received for them over five cents per dozen more than market quotations, on account of uniformly large size and fine color."

Mr. Norton has one of the largest and most successful poultry farms in Maine, and the senior editor of this paper is able to endorse him as trustworthy and honorable in his dealings with his customers. He breeds "practical" Barred P. Rocks and White Wyandottes.

Be Forehanded.

All people realize before the summer is half over that if they had only started with their gardens a little sooner and been a little more prompt in their planting, they would obtain much better results. The good resolutions made each year that they will begin promptly the next, are always forgotten. Something continually comes up, the season seems to be backward, and almost everyone will procrastinate, and the result is that spring, and then summer, is well upon us before we realize that our seed should have been in the ground several weeks before. Why not this year turn over a new leaf? Begin at once! Make your plans how you will have your garden laid out, and what seeds you intend to plant. There is no way to do this and be sure it will be done right so effectually as to write to Messrs. Joseph Breck & Sons, and ask them to send their 1896 Seed and Agricultural Implement Catalogue. This book, which is of universal value to everyone, will be mailed free, upon request. They have published it for 1896, and with its one hundred and seventy beautifully illustrated pages, its carefully arranged index, and its useful information concerning the care of plants of every description, it is indeed an authority which will be turned to every week of the year. The book also contains both common and proper names of all plant life, a point which will be appreciated by many. Joseph Breck & Sons are also offering some wonderful inducements in the way of collections of valuable flower and vegetable seeds, which they are mailing at prices that are really most reasonable. We would advise all to carefully study their advertisements which appear in our publication, and also, if they have not already procured a catalogue, to send for one.

Bought Natick Stock.

J. S. Richardson, Gonic, N. H., breeder of White Wyandottes, spent a day in Natick, Mass., last month, buying stock for his farm. Mr. Richardson was one of the first subscribers to FARM-POULTRY, and is well pleased with it as a semi-monthly. Among the purchases made here were some excellent White Wyandottes from I. K. Felch & Son.

Fine Barred P. Rocks.

A breeder of Barred P. Rocks who stepped to the front rank at once, and easily maintains his place there, is Mr. Frank P. Reeve, of Somersworth, N. H., whose advertisement of eggs for hatching from the same pens he sets eggs for his own chickens, may be found in the advertising columns of FARM-POULTRY. In his advertisement he tells us something of his methods, in that he employed Judge May to come up and cull out every bird that was not first-class, and not in first-class condition, so that his breeding pens, mated by one of our best judges and one of the most skillful of P. Rock breeders, contain nothing but the "cream" of his large stock.

Eggs from such matings and from stock so faithfully culled cannot but give the best of results.

THE BEST

Is what I sell you. My

White Wyandottes

Landed the most important prize in the class at New York, 1896, first on breeding pen, against the pick of the country. They are white. They are big. They have nice combs. They will help you to improve your flock. Price of eggs on back cover.

A. C. HAWKINS, Lancaster, Mass.

DO YOU LOVE YOUR WIFE?

Then save her strength, save her health, save her beauty and make her happy by buying her a **FAULTLESS QUAKER DISH WASHER.**

It is a marvel of simplicity and a wonder for utility. Washes, rinses, dries & polishes in two minutes. Lasts a lifetime. It sells quickly. Everybody wants it when they once see it. Agents make money rapidly. Write today for terms, etc.

The Quaker Novelty Co. Salem, Ohio.

AN INVITATION.

It Gives Us Pleasure to Publish the following Announcement.

All women suffering from any form of illness peculiar to their sex are requested to communicate promptly with Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass. All letters are received, opened, read and answered by women only.



A woman can freely talk of her private illness to a woman; thus has been established the eternal confidence between Mrs. Pinkham and the women of America. This confidence has induced more than 100,000 women to write Mrs. Pinkham for advice during the last few months.

Think what a volume of experience she has to draw from! No physician living ever treated so many cases of female ills, and from this vast experience surely it is more than possible she has gained the very knowledge that will help your case.

She is glad to have you write or call upon her. You will find her a woman full of sympathy, with a great desire to assist those who are sick. If her medicine is not what you need, she will frankly tell you so, and there are nine chances out of ten that she will tell you exactly what to do for relief. She asks nothing in return except your good will, and her advice has relieved thousands.

Surely, any ailing woman, rich or poor, is very foolish if she does not take advantage of this generous offer of assistance.

Never in the history of medicine has the demand for one particular remedy for female diseases equalled that attained by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and never in the history of Mrs. Pinkham's wonderful Compound has the demand for it been so great as it is to-day.

BUFF P. ROCKS,

Buff to the skin. My yard consists of the very choicest of specimens, and having a large flock to select from places my yards in the front rank both in size, color and P. R. shape. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$4 per 30. White I. Games \$5 per 13; \$9 per 30. White Face Spanish, Light Brahmas \$1.50 per 13; \$3 per 30. American Dominiques \$1.50 per 13; \$3 per 30. Solid Buff Legs, S. C. W. Legs, Brown Legs, Bar'd P. R., Buff Pekin Ban. eggs, \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Circular free.

L. H. BOWLBY, Box 38, Washington, Warren Co., N. J.

2ND ON PULLET at Washington, D. C. Eggs from four grand pens of S. C. Brown Leghorns, \$2.40 per 15. From other pens \$1.00 per 15. Catalogue free. M. O. Office, Galeua. B. HAYWARD WALLIS, Georgetown, Md.

WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS For Hatching

From prize winning stock, \$2 per 13; \$3.75 per 26; \$5 per 40; \$10 per 100.

15 Cock'Is FOR SALE.

Fine breeders, farm raised, healthy, and well up in standard requirements. Price, \$2 to \$5 each; all other surplus stock sold.

CHAS. C. RYDER, Yarmouthport, Mass.

EGGS for Hatching.

Light Brahmas, Barred P. Rocks, Black Minorcas, S. C. Brown Leghorns \$1.25 per 13; \$2 per 26. C. I. Games, \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26. Bronze Turkeys, \$2 per 13. P. Ducks \$1 per 13; \$2 per 26 eggs. Not all prize winners. Circular free.

F. A. HOMANN, Lock Box 417, Effingham, Ill.

EGGS

FOR HATCHING.

Now ready from our best stock.

Light Brahmas,
Barred Rocks,
Black Langshans,
White Wyandottes,
\$3 per 13; \$6 per 39.

BUFF WYANDOTTES, EGGS \$5 per 13
LEGHORNS

Fox Terriers and Belgian Hares.

ORR'S Clear CRIT

For Poultry. Best grit in America. Orr's Clear Grit Quarterly free.

ORR'S POULTRY YARDS,
Box 1, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

\$1.00 PER SITTING.

I have mated up two pens of

Barred Plymouth Rocks.
From which I will sell eggs at above price. These are the same blood as my winners at Boston, Brockton, Stoughton and Clinton shows.

BUFF BLACK COCHIN BANTAMS
Eggs \$3 per sitting; two sittings \$5.
W. B. ATHERTON, Randolph, Mass.

LARGE BROWN EGG STRAIN

Barred Plymouth Rocks.
Birds vigorous and hardy and prolific layers. I shipped from my farm last year over 500 dozen eggs to one Boston store alone, and received for them over 5c per dozen more than market quotations on account of uniformly large size and fine color. Eggs for hatching, \$1 per 13; \$5 per 100.

RALPH S. NORTON,
Falmouth Foreside, Me.

BARRED P. ROCKS

Hawkins and Bradley Bros. strains, only two removes from first prize winners at New York and Boston, 1894-'95. Hatching eggs from 125 first class breeders, the cream of 300 thoroughbreds, hatched by me in 1894-'95. Grand shape, size, markings, and great producers of brown eggs. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26; \$6 per 100. My stock is vigorous. Each flock has an open scratching shed pen, and the best care. I also breed C. I. Games, Light Brahmas and Pekin Ducks. CHAS. E. DAVIS, Warner, N. H.

J. H. Devins,

ALBANY STREET POULTRY FARM.
Utica, N. Y. breeder of prize winning Light Brahmas, Dark Brahmas, Barred Plymouth Rocks, S. C. White Leghorns, S. C. Brown Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Silver Laced Wyandottes, Imperial Pekin Ducks, W. P. Rocks, Indian Games and Golden Wyandottes. Won 17 premiums at Utica show. Stock for sale. Send for circular. Eggs 1.50 per 13.

THE POULTRY ARCHITECT. Illustrates 117 designs and plans of poultry houses, coups, fences, roosts, nest boxes, feed troughs and other necessities for the poultry yard, with practical information on their construction. Price 25 cents. Address H. A. KUHN, Atlanta, Ga.

SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER

It will keep your chickens strong and healthy. It will make young pullets lay early. Worth its weight in gold for moulting hens, and prevents all diseases.

Large Cans Most Economical to Buy.
Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers.
It is a powerful Food Digestive.

Therefore, no matter what kind of food you use, mix with it daily Sheridan's Powder. Otherwise, your profit this fall and winter will be lost when the price for eggs is very high. It assures perfect assimilation of the food elements needed to produce health and form eggs. It is absolutely pure. Highly concentrated. Its quantity costs less than a tenth of a cent a day. No other kind is like it.

If you can't get it send to us. Ask First
Single pack, 25 cts. Five \$1. Large two-lb. can \$1.20. Six cans, \$5. Exp. paid. Sample "BEST PULTRY POWDER" free.
I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

What Caused the Deaths?

Mr. Editor:—Through the next issue of F.-P. I would like to make some inquiries for the purpose of learning the cause of losing so many chickens. Last year Messrs. T. of this place hatched, by means of the Monarch incubator over eighteen hundred chickens, and only raised about eighty of them. The first hatch commenced to die ore to two weeks of age, and within a few days after they commenced they were all dead excepting ten or twelve. The next hatch was about the same, only commenced to die earlier, and so on from hatch to hatch, until they were all gone excepting about eighty; and this year they have commenced to die in the same way. The first hatch was Feb'y 17th; on 19th they were put in brooders; heat in same is kept at 85 to 95 degrees during the day—at night 90 degrees. I feed them with ground oats, corn meal, shorts (or bran) and a little Sheridan's Condition Powder, mixed together and baked hard in the oven. This is fed for a few days, when I make about the same mixture in a damp form. They seem to be smart and lively, scratching continually. They will seem to be all right when I feed them one time, and perhaps the next time I see them they will be staggering like drunken men, seeming to have no use of their legs; at the same time they seem anxious to hunt for food, and after a time will fall over and not be able to get on their feet again, and soon die. Last year they would go into the brooder house some mornings and pick up ore or two water pails full of dead chicks. Mr. T. opened hundreds of them, and found the livers quite pale (or light) in color. What is the trouble, and what the cure? Any information that you or the readers of F.-P. can give me will be greatly appreciated.

One more thing I should say: two years ago this spring they hatched five hundred and fifty chicks, and only lost fifty of them, and they were fed the same way as last year and this.

I would like to say that you are right in your article in F.-P. for Feb. 15th, ("Feeling Fresh Fish.") Mr. T. last summer had a lot of fresh fish scraps given him from one of our fish markets, and he threw them in a heap for his hens to feed on, which they did, and a few days after Mrs. T. in using some eggs in cooking broke one which smelled so strong she was obliged to give the house an airing; and some that were not noticed to smell were tasted in food eaten. The cause of this smell and taste was traced to the fish the hens had eaten, and I would recommend anyone using fresh fish to feed it sparingly and be sure to it.

Narragansett Pier, R. I. J. C. T.

We publish this in the hope that it may draw out opinions from experienced chicken raisers, and only venture the opinion that the enormous mortality was caused by defective diet. We would suspect the oat-hulls of the ground oats, and the coarse shorts (both extremely indigestible) were the cause of the trouble directly after you ceased cooking it by baking it into a cake. So long as you baked it the digestive organs could take care of it, though no doubt severely taxed by the excess of coarse woody fibre. When you ceased to bake it, and fed it simply wet up with the meals all raw, the weakened digestive apparatus couldn't handle the mass.

This is a guess, only, but there would be cause enough, there, for a great mortality, and it is possible that other causes contributed, for example, grit. You are silent upon that point, and yet grit for chicks is one of the most important things. It is not sufficient to have it accessible to them—have it where they can get at it; we believe a little should be mixed into the food once a day, then the chicks are certain to get it. It is possible that lack of sharp grit alone caused the great mortality, that if the chicks had been well supplied (internally) with that necessary commodity they could have handled the harsh oat-hulls and shorts, even if they were eaten raw; but we would suspect more than one cause for your trouble.

What do F.-P. readers think was the cause?

April Hatched Leghorns.

Allow us to suggest that your answer to a correspondent, in late FARM-POULTRY, page 95, is misleading. You say Leghorns should not be hatched until the latter part of May or the first of June. Now we have bred Leghorns for the last twelve years, and always

have hatched a large number in April, and never had one to moult the following fall; but on the contrary they commenced laying early in autumn and continued laying all winter. If hatched in April they attain a larger size than if hatched later, which is a very important consideration in Leghorns.

Milltown, N. J.

W. H. FREY, Jr.

Cheese for Loose Bowels.

My hens were very loose in the bowels, and dropped their eggs on the roost at night. I don't mean all their eggs, but every morning when the droppings boards were cleaned there would be from one to three eggs dropped during the night. I have kept fowls twenty-five years, and never saw or heard of a case before. I consulted old breeders and fanciers, and none of them ever knew of such a trouble, but thought that it was partly due to their looseness or weakness. They advised me to give them something to check that.

I happened to have some pieces of dried cheese left from the table—probably one-quarter of a pound. This I cut up into pieces the size of corn, and scattered around so the hens, twenty in number, could get it. The next morning I found two eggs on the boards. That day I cut up a pint bowl full of cheese and gave it to them. The next morning I found one egg, and their bowels were somewhat checked. The next day I gave them more, and since then (January 24th) I have found only two eggs on the board, and their droppings are as healthy fowls' should be. This experience proved to be a cure and a novel remedy.

N. Y. Z.

Centreville, R. I.

Hallock's Ducks.

In the list of awards at the New York show, the breeding pen of Pekin ducks exhibited by A. J. Hallock, Atlantic Farm, Speonk, L. I., was given second premium, when it should have been first.

Rhode Island Reds.

R. V. Browning, Box 127, Natick, R. I., announces in our advertising columns that he can now supply eggs of the Rhode Island Reds at \$2 per sitting; or \$1.50 each when three or more sittings are ordered at one time. The Rhode Island Reds are grand table fowls and good layers.

From October Number of Western Poultry Journal.

The Improved Moultor Incubator is made of the very best material, and none but first-class mechanics employed. A machine whose excellent qualities are known all over the United States, and used and recommended by the best poultrymen. Every article used in the construction of the machine is first-class, and all machines are thoroughly tested before leaving the factory. No watching the machine is required, as they have perfect regulators. It has been awarded the first premium at nearly all the great fairs and expositions in the United States. The Moultor Incubator is one of the best Incubators made. Only the very best mechanical skill is used in the construction of these machines. They give complete satisfaction wherever used. Parties desiring a large book of valuable information should out their advertisement out of this issue and mail to Mr. A. F. Williams, Bristol, Conn.

Take Notice.

The Flower City Incubator and Brooder Co., of Rochester, New York, is offering a special bargain on their first class 200-capacity Incubators and Brooders in order to introduce these machines. This Company only manufactures one grade of machines, and that the very best. Our dealings with this Company lead us to believe them honest in all their dealings, and to send out only first class tested machines. Intending purchasers had better take advantage of their special offer if in need of first class business machines. They claim for their machines all the latest and most perfect improvements up to date, and absolutely self regulating; and the eggs in their machines are all turned with just one move of the hand without removing the eggs from the machine. Tested patent fire proof lamps. They are easy and simple to operate. This Company also manufactures first class out door Brooders and Sectional Brooders for brooding house purposes. Their prices are very reasonable. Send for their new catalogue, and give them a trial order.

"NOTHING UNDER THE SUN"
WILL MAKE
HENS LAY
LIKE
BOILED BEEF AND BONE

It takes the place of Insect Life for Hens and Chicks.
It contains all the nutritious elements found in meat.
It fills the egg basket and makes Chicks grow.
It prevents constipation, scurvy and leg weakness in Chicks.

B. B. B.
— IS AN —
ALBUMINOUS EXTRACT OF MEAT AND BONE.

Do You Keep Poultry?

Then you know that Meat and Bone are the great requisites for filling the Egg Basket. The Meat supplying the Albumen, and Bone the Shell of the Egg. Now, by adding Meat, Grain and green food, you have everything needed (by the hen) for the production of Eggs.

A hen is simply an Egg Machine; feed her properly, and she is bound, by the laws of nature, to fill your egg basket.

"Hens Cannot Produce Eggs"

(Which are full of meat) without meat, or something equivalent, to make them out of—for eggs and meat are both composed principally of "Albuminoids and water."

We are prepared to supply you with the former, you can furnish the water (if fed as she should be) "the hen will do the rest."

Do You Raise Chicks?

For strong, healthy chicks, animal food of some sort must be used, and we offer our Boiled Beef and Bone as especially adapted for this purpose. It being thoroughly cooked, will prevent all bowel trouble, and supply all the nutriment of meat, without its accompanying defects.

What Will Make Hens Lay?

Dosing them with medicines? Feeding them Condition Powders? or supplying them with nature's food,—Albumen, Nitrogen and Bone? We claim the latter.

Our Boiled Beef and Bone will increase the production of Eggs, and increase the fertility of Eggs. We don't ask you to believe all we say—only enough to test its truth. Boiled Beef and Bone will make hens lay, because it supplies them with Egg and Shell forming material. Medicines won't make hens lay. A sick hen can't lay, and healthy hens don't require medicines or condition powders. All they need is an Egg producing food, and you have it in B. B. B.—everything required to make an Egg.

Mr. Warrenton, a celebrated English chemist, tells us that the principal ingredients of an Egg are Nitrogen, Albumen, Lime and Phosphoric Acid. Analysis shows B. B. B. to be rich in Albumen, Nitrogen, Lime and Phosphoric Acid. In fact, B. B. B. contains all the essence of an Egg—Albumen, Yolk and Shell. You simply add the water and meal—the hen does the rest.

We have not advertised as largely as others, because our B. B. B. has advertised itself to such an extent that for the past two years we have had hard work to supply the demand. Now, however, we have just contracted for 330,000 sheep's heads, lights and livers MORE than any previous year, and will in future be able to fill all orders promptly.

Boiled Beef and Bone

Differs from all other similar poultry food, in that it is made from

Absolutely Fresh Material

Never over 6 hours old. The Cattle and Sheep Heads, Lights, Livers and Beef are from stock slaughtered on the premises, and are cooked, dried, crushed, ground, mixed and bagged, all within 6 to 12 hours from time of killing. Samples sent free.

GUARANTEED

Cheaper than Meat, Better than Scraps.

Safer than medicines; rich in albumen. It prevents leg weakness, bowel complaint and feather eating.

50 lbs., \$1.25; 100 lbs., \$2.25.

SMITH & ROMAINE, Sole Mfr.'s,
109 Murray St., New York City.

Abattoir: Foot Sixth St., Jersey City, N. J.

Office of
SMITH & ROMAINE & BONE
MANUFACTURERS OF
BOILED BEEF AND BONE
POULTRY

109 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK.

I, Chas. Kaufman, Supt. Abattoir, Jersey City N. J., being duly sworn under oath, hereby affirm that over One Million, Six Hundred thousand pounds of fresh raw Material (Sheep's heads, Livers, Lights etc.) were used solely in the manufacture of Smith & Romaine's B.B.B. for Poultry, during the year 1894—being an average of nearly One hundred & thirty five thousand pounds per month.

sworn to
this—
11th day
of March
1895

Signed
Chas. Kaufman
Supt. Abattoir, Jersey City, N. J., Notary Public.

NOTE.—Our 1895 production exceeded above 300,000 lbs., or almost 2,000,000 lbs. material used.

The Useless Letters.

Mr. Editor:—That editorial in the March 1st issue on "Useless Letters," is short but to the point, and just expresses my own experience within the past month. I was also struck with John H. Robinson's reasons for not selling eggs for hatching. There is a good deal of truth in that, too. I had one man come to look over my stock and ask questions three years in succession—"thought he should want eggs as soon as he could get hens to sit." He took up more of my time than a sitting of eggs was worth each year. Last year I suppose, he got a "sitting hen," for he decided after much consideration to invest in one sitting of S. C. Brown Leghorn eggs, for which I asked him \$1. He hatched ten nice strong chickens, which he thinks are better than the parent stock—and for further improvement (?) he lets them have free range with his former mongrels; but he is not taking up my time now, and I am glad he is satisfied.

Now about those "useless letters." I was just on the point of writing you my own experience, when in taking up FARM-POULTRY my eye caught the heading of your editorial, and upon reading it I at once decided to respond to it. Within the past month I have received a dozen or more letters and postal cards which I knew meant nothing as soon as I looked at them; but in every case I have written a polite reply, giving the information desired, etc.—but I never hear from this class of inquirers, and never expect to. One man wants to know if we have "any Wyandotte eggs which we will sell by the hundred." Another wants to know if we have White Wyandotte eggs for sitting; "wants a sitting, cannot pay a high price. Another wants our "price for a cockerel," (no particular kind mentioned). They have all seen our ad. in FARM-POULTRY, where we distinctly tell that we breed Barred and White Plymouth Rocks and S. C. Brown Leghorns; all use postal cards. Another encloses his wants in an envelope, but, like most of his kind, forgets to enclose a stamp for reply; he wants "lowest prices on best eggs." Another wants our "full list of prices and description of stock;" one would think he intended to buy you out. He has become a "silent partner," we hear no more from him. Least of all, one writes that as we have our poultry yard named "Berkshire," he thinks we "may have pigs to sell." The man who really wants something will tell you just what he wants, in a few words, and will enclose his return stamp, and places the breeder in a position to give him a definite reply—and his order comes forthwith.

Business is business; and I, for one, do not care to spend all my spare time (and the profits in poultry raising), answering useless letters and paying the postage on such myself.

We advertise our stock for sale, and guarantee satisfaction, and are glad to hear from anyone who means business and wants something, if only a sitting of eggs; and we will take as much care to fill such an order as a larger one; but those who write on postal cards for stock we do not advertise to breed, need not be surprised if their communications are dropped in the waste basket with Mr. Hunter's. Please find a place for this (if it suits you) in the next issue of FARM-POULTRY. It may set these people to thinking, and thereby other breeders besides ourselves be benefited.

BERKSHIRE POULTRY YARDS.

Otis, Mass.

Made the Cockerels Grow.

Mr. Editor:—You may be pleased to hear that I have got the mate to your pullet, illustrated in March 1st F-P. I've forgotten just when I got the eggs of you, but I think she is nine and a half months old, and she weighs exactly seven pounds. She is white, yes, white, with perfect comb. I wish I knew how much she would score. My five White Wyandotte pullets that I raised from the eggs laid me seventy-eight eggs in January, and they are in the coldest building I have—a part of the woodshed, and it went away below zero three times during the month. They began laying New Years day, and have laid ever since, beating my Minorcas, which are in a warm building; but the latter are laying better now than they were in January. The only things that bother me in breeding them (the Minorcas) is white feathers and Standard weight. My birds are of good blood, but

most of them lack size; the Standard is awfully high for this breed. I find the Minorcas away ahead of any Leghorns I ever owned, for profit. I think the latter may lay more eggs in a year, but the size and quality are poorer; and what is one to do with the cockerels? My Minorca cockerels bring ten cents a pound right along, and I keep weeding them out till all but the very best are gone.

What do you think of this for gain of weight in cockerels? I imported a Barred P. Rock cockerel from Mr. E. B. Pike, of N. H., last October, and he weighed by November five pounds and one ounce. I keep all males separate from hens, and feed well, and in three and one-half months that bird gained three pounds eleven ounces. I also have a Barred Rock cockerel, Lamson's strain, that gained three pounds in the same time, and now weighs eight pounds twelve ounces; and a White Rock that gained two pounds five ounces in same time, weighing now almost nine pounds. A White Wyandotte from Cole, of Dighton, Mass., weighs eight and one-half pounds; gained one and one-half pounds since I got him; and a White I. Game gained two pounds four ounces, weighing now eight pounds four ounces, about twelve ounces over Standard weight. These are all cockerels. I have one Barred P. Rock cock, Hawkins' strain, weighs ten pounds five ounces, and took 1st at St. John show. Two of my Pekin ducks (Rainin's) have laid so far thirty-two eggs, twenty-two of them in February. Isn't this a pretty good showing for "away down east," as you call us?

A. G. GOODACRE.

Grand Pre, N. S.

[That would look as though you knew how to take good care of your stock—and we would think that showing "good enough" for any locality.—ED.]

Fancy Poultry Booming.

Mr. Editor:—There is a veritable boom in fancy poultry out this way. Good birds are bringing better prices than ever was known, west, and as near as I can learn everybody is selling without trouble all the birds they have to spare. Trust you in the east are favored the same way. That Boston show seems to have put a crimp into New York and Washington shows. Yours truly,

St. Louis, Mo. HENRY STEINMESCH.

[From a personal letter.]

A BARCAIN COLLECTION OF Flower Seeds.

10 Choice Annuals, (everybody's favorites) all new fresh seeds, sure to grow and bloom this season. Pansy, 40 colors and markings; Phlox, 20 colors; Verbena, 18 colors; Pinks, 10 colors; Petunia, 10 colors; Asters, 12 colors; Balsam, 8 colors; Sweet Peas, 12 colors; Mignonette and Sweet Alyssum. **FOR 12 CENTS** in stamps and the name and address of two of your friends who grow flowers, I will send, postpaid, the complete collection, one pkt. each, of the ten varieties, (enough for any ordinary garden.)

Miss C. H. LIPPINCOTT,
319 and 323 Sixth Street S.,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

FLOWER SEEDS SURPRISE COLLECTION

SPECIAL OFFER

Made to secure 500,000 New Choice Tomers. **8 PKGS.** Seeds sure to grow and blossom. Note Postpaid for..... **10 cts.** the varieties:—Pansy 50 colors, Phlox 20 varieties, Pinks 15 finest shades, Petunia 12 latest colors, Balsam 10 grand sorts, Poppy 10 elegant shades, Mignonette, sweet, very fragrant, and Everblooming Sweet Alyssum.

E. U. Kimbark, Evanston, Ill., writes: "It is a pleasure to plant Buckbee's Seeds—they always grow." Add three cents extra to cover postage and receive New Instructive and Beautiful Seed and Plant Book.

H. W. BUCKBEE,
P. O. Box No. 202,
Rockford Seed Farms, ROCKFORD, ILL.

Silver Spangled Hamburgs EXCLUSIVELY.

Three fine pens containing my prize winners at the great Hamburg, N. Y., show, and elsewhere.

EGGS \$2.00 per 13 (A fair hatch guaranteed.) \$3.50 per 26 (A fair hatch guaranteed.)

Prize record and sample feathers for stamp.

H. Y. MILLER, Sugar Grove, Pa.

ARMSTRONG & McKELVY Pittsburgh.
BEYMER-BAUMAN Pittsburgh.
DAVIS-CHAMBERS Pittsburgh.
FAHNESTOCK Pittsburgh.
ANCHOR Cincinnati.
ECKSTEIN Cincinnati.
ATLANTIC New York.
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BROOKLYN New York.
JEWETT New York.
ULSTER New York.
UNION New York.
SOUTHERN Chicago.
SHIPMAN Chicago.
COLLIER St. Louis.
MISSOURI St. Louis.
RED SEAL St. Louis.
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JOHN T. LEWIS & BROS. CO. Philadelphia.
MORLEY Cleveland.
SALEM Salem, Mass.
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NO MISREPRESENTATION on the part of our agents tolerated or of dealers or painters necessary. You know just what you are getting when you have painting done with

Pure White Lead

(see list of brands, which are genuine) and Pure Linseed Oil. Don't be misled by trying something else said to be "just as good." Any desired shade or color may be easily produced by using NATIONAL LEAD Co.'s Pure White Lead Tinting Colors.

Pamphlet giving valuable information and card showing samples of colors free; also cards showing pictures of twelve houses of different designs painted in various styles or combinations of shades forwarded upon application to those intending to paint.

NATIONAL LEAD CO.,
1 Broadway, New York.

AGENTS WANTED.

ACME PULVERIZING HARROW, CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELER.

Adapted to all soils and all work. Crushes, cuts, lifts, pulverizes, turns and levels the soil in one operation. Made entirely of cast steel and wrought iron—practically indestructible.

Illustrated pamphlet mailed free.

Cheapest riding harrow on earth. \$8.00 and up.

SENT ON TRIAL To be returned at my expense if not satisfactory.

DUANE H. NASH, Sole Mfr., Millington, New Jersey, and Chicago, Ill.

N.B.—I deliver free on board at distributing points.

PLEASE MENTION THIS PAPER.

POULTRY For Pleasure and Profit

Town and manage one of the best poultry farms in Illinois. I breed 40 varieties

STANDARD BREEDS. Stock Healthy and Hardy. Will stand any climate. My New Poultry Catalogue illustrates fully these breeds and gives much valuable information to every poultryman or intending purchaser. Send six cents stamps. Good stock of Ducks and Geese, also **Shetland Ponies.** My reference is Farmers Exchange Bank. Write me to-day.

E. H. COOK, Box 11, Huntley, Ills.

MONEY IN FRUITS

FUN, too, if you put heart and soul in their culture. Hale has found heaps of both. Tells the story in book, "From Push Cart to Trolley Car in Fruit Culture." It's free. Send for it now if interested in Berries, Peaches, Japan Plums, or other money makers. Address **HALE, SOUTH GLASTONBURY, CONN.**

Hatch Chickens by Steam

WITH THE MODEL

EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR

Lowest-priced First-class Hatcher made.

Simple, perfect, self-regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other Hatcher. Send 6c. for illus. book.

THE WOODEN HEN

The most efficient incubator ever invented for raising poultry on a small scale. A perfect hatcher, fully guaranteed. Automatic, self-regulating. Accurate in every detail. 28 egg capacity. Catalogue free.

Patentee and Sole Manufacturer, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

GEO. H. STAHL,

ORCHARD DUCK YARDS.

EGGS FROM CHOICE PEKIN DUCKS FOR SALE.

Our ducks are noted for large size and early maturing. Our ducks are the heaviest and best sent to New York and Boston markets. Price of eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Discount on large orders. Choice birds for sale.

WEBER BROS., Wrentham, Mass.

Barred Plymouth Rock Record.

Mr. Editor:—In December 15th issue I gave the weight of one of my Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels at eight and a half pounds when six months old. February 9th, at the age of nine months, he went to ten pounds without any extra feed. He is with five pullets of the same age, and all of the latter are laying. Can any one beat that, for same age, and under same conditions? J. D. H.

New Britain, Conn.

Early Ducks.

Mr. Editor:—Since you were out to our place our brooding houses are rapidly filling up, and we are having great success hatching ducklings this season. We have about twelve hundred out thus far, and not yet the first of March, nine hundred more than last year at this time.

Could you ask through F.-P. whether anybody else has more young ducks than that the 1st of March? Our breeding ducks are nearly all laying; we are getting about four hundred eggs a day, and the eggs run about ninety per cent fertile. Our sixteen large Monarch incubators are all full, and the outlook for the coming season is very promising.

Yours truly,

Wrentham, Mass.

WEBER BROS.

[The above letter is a supplement to "Money in Ducks," page 89, March 1st F.-P.—ED.]

Our readers will bear in mind that the Fredonia Washer is the champion of all hand washers. It never fails to give satisfaction. Lady agents make money selling the Fredonia Washer. Several widow ladies have paid for homes by selling the Fredonia Washer. Correspondence is solicited. The Fredonia Washer Co., 21, 23, 25 Broad St., Hillsdale, Mich.

A Good-Sense Book for Sensible Planters.

Those planters who wish the latest information about Seeds, presented in a straight-forward, matter-of-fact way, will be gratified by the practical good sense evidenced in Gregory's Seed Catalogue for 1896. The purpose of this book is to help the planter in the choice of seeds best adapted to the conditions of his particular locality, and it probably contains descriptions of a greater variety and more new varieties of seeds, than any other catalogue. It gives plain useful information in place of chromos, and hard facts instead of fanciful descriptions. It is a work worthy of the reputation of the firm that publishes it, and one that cannot fail to win the approval and appreciation of all farmers and gardeners. Any one who plants seeds can obtain a copy free of postage upon application to J. J. H. Gregory & Son, Marblehead, Mass., who are the oldest and largest seed growers in New England, and one of the best known firms in the entire country. Their business was established in 1836, and its growth has been continuous and healthy. There is probably no section of the country where Gregory's "Home Grown" Seeds are not sold and planted.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896.
A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

{SEAL}

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Lincoln's Last Historical Letter.

Mr. Willard P. Smith, (of Smith & Romaine), writes us that his little son is offering for sale lithographed copies in exact fac-simile of Lincoln's famous letter to Mrs. Hall, at the Sanitary Commission fair in March, 1865. Mr. Smith's father won the letter at the fair, and has retained it all these years, notwithstanding the many efforts to induce him to part with it. The Lincoln Association offered him \$200 for it.

Master Smith has had the letter lithographed, the fac-simile copies being printed on heavy plate paper suitable for framing, and will send one upon receipt of ten cents in stamps sent to his address. Write Master S. H. Smith, Jr., Box 2690, New York City.

**HAVE YOU ONE OR MORE COWS?**

If so, whether for pleasure or profit, household or dairy, you should know of the **CENTRIFUGAL CREAM SEPARATORS.**

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From small beginnings the business has steadily and rapidly increased, so that our customers are found all over the United States; and we take pride in numbering among them many of the largest producers and most successful men in the business.

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The capacity of the plant at Springfield has doubled in one year, thus showing that our efforts are appreciated.

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The H-O Company, 71 Park Place, New York, (mills at Buffalo, N. Y.) are advertising a standard Poultry Food, made from the grain used by them in manufacturing their well known and popular cereal foods, and this Standard Poultry Food is certain to come into favor so soon as its surpassing merits are understood. It is purely a grain food, the grains being so combined as to furnish the right proportion or food elements to produce growth in chicks, and promote health and induce egg production in fowls. In other words it is a "balanced" ration, the ingredients being carefully weighed in, after a chemical test has exactly determined the food elements they contain; and as the whole is thoroughly mixed by a most approved mechanical process, absolute uniformity is insured. The result is a Poultry Food which is *right*, and it only needs to be made known to poultrymen to be appreciated, and used in great quantities.

Write the H-O Company, 71 Park Place, New York City, for descriptive circular.

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The firm of newspaper advertising agents, Alden & Faxon, Cincinnati, Ohio, has changed the style of the business firm, and will hereafter be known as the Frank H. Alden & Sons Company.

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Their First Thanksgiving at Home.

Mr. Newbryde (attempting to carve the turkey)—Good heavens, Mary, what have you stuffed this turkey with?

Mrs. Newbryde (with dignity)—Why, with oysters, as you told me.

Mr. Newbryde (again trying to force his knife thro')—But it feels like rocks or stones.

Mrs. Newbryde—Oh you cruel brute! That is the oyster shells. You always told me the only way you liked oysters was in the shells.—Puck.

Naturally Followed.

Kindergarten Teacher—What happened when the woman killed the goose that laid the golden egg?

Bobby Herdso—The goose was cooked.—*New York World.*

He Was Apprehensive.

"Seuse me sur," he said, as he approached one of the attaches of the Smithsonian Institution, "but I wants ter ax yoh sumfin'."

"What's the matter?" was the inquiry.

"Are you looking for something to eat?"

"N'indeed, I ain't hungry. I wants scientific information. I wants ter know 'bout dese byah x rays dat dey's takin' de phortygrafs wif. Dey done tells me dey can take picters right froo yer; when dey goes after ye wif one er dem, yer skin an' clo's ain't no 'tection 't all."

"That's what they claim."

"An' ef I dun hed chicken foh dinner, I s'pose dey could jes' frow me down an' take a pieter ob de chicken."

"I believe the theory is something like that."

"Da's what I thought. Da's what I thought. But yere's whut I dun come ter ax yer. Does yer believe dat dey could git er good nuff likeness ob dat chicken ter inable de ownah ter reco'nize him?"—*Washington Star.*

Tit for Tat.

"They say eggs should always come packed in layers."

"Yes, and onions in tiers."—*Brooklyn Life.*

He Had an Egg-Nog.

The two hundred and fifty pupils of the Sunday-school of the Fifteenth Street Christian Church had gone through their lessons yesterday forenoon, and most of the children were shifting their feet uneasily when superintendent Ernest Forbes announced from the pulpit platform that attorney W. O. Thomas would make a short address and then the benediction would be said. Attorney Thomas mounted the platform with a slow movement and a thoughtful air, and five hundred eyes watched him as he fondled his chain and remarked he would say a few words about the damage that whiskey would do the brain when it was taken into the stomach.

"Now" he said, "is there a boy or girl here who can tell me what is the principal constituent part of the human brain?"

That word constituent befuddled most of the little minds present, but one girl who attends the high school on week days raised her hand and said, "Albumen."

"That is right," said the lawyer, "albumen forms the principal part of a man's brain. And now, can you tell me what forms the principal part of an egg?"

The same girl answered, "albumen" again, and the lawyer looked pleased as he pronounced the answer correct.

"Now," he continued as he laid the forefinger of his right hand in the palm of his left; "now to show you the effect of whiskey on the brain, suppose I break an egg in a glass. Are you listening?"

Two hundred and fifty heads nodded earnestly.

"Well, I break this egg in a glass and pour in some whiskey on top of it. What do I have then?"

Attorney Thomas expected the high school girl to reply that the whiskey would turn the egg white and spoil it, but she said nothing. He repeated his question. "What would I have if I poured the whiskey in the glass with the egg?"

"Egg-nog!" shouted a little fellow on the front bench.—*Portland Telegram.*



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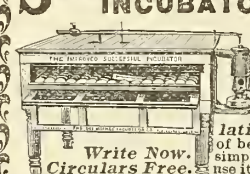
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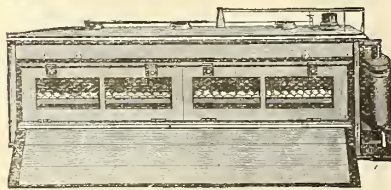
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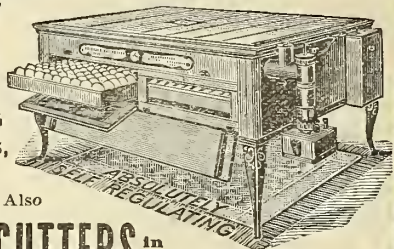
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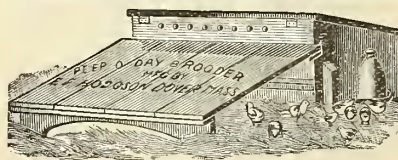
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